THIRD EDITION

JOHNNIE WALKER
BLENDED FROM SCOTLAND'S FINEST WHISKIES

Belfast Telegraph

69th YEAR [REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER.] SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1938. THREE-HALFPENCE

On Eloquence, Genius, and Gas Masks

Read Lady Oxford in to-day's issue

"BELFAST TELEGRAPH."
LONDON OFFICE:
ULSTER HOUSE, 112 FLEET STREET, E.C.4.
'Phone: Central 8357.
Telegrams: Unattached, Fleet, London.

Northern Ireland visitors may consult the Belfast and Ulster Directory and the Northern Ireland Telephone Directory at above address.

THE "BELFAST TELEGRAPH" CAN BE OBTAINED EACH MORNING about 8-30 at the following Bookstalls of W. H. SMITH & SON:—

Hotel Russell — Strand Palace Hotel
Regent Palace Hotel — Cumberland Hotel
Royal Automobile Club — Marble Arch

Also at the Stalls of WYMAN & SON, LTD., Euston Railway Station, and at the London Office of this Newspaper.

The "Telegraph" may also be obtained at the followng centres:—

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Shelbourne Hotel — Ivanhoe Hotel
Jury's Hotel — Central Hotel

GLASGOW.
J Thompson & Co., 12 St Enoch's Square.

LIVERPOOL.
W. H. Smith & Son, Hornby House, Tithebarn Street.

BLACKPOOL.
W. H. Smith & Son, Bookstall, Central Station.

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London General Printing Office—24 ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C.2.
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MEDICAL.

'BLUE LABEL'
FOR QUALITY
BLUE LABEL CASTOR OIL
BLUE LABEL HEADACHE POWDERS
BLUE LABEL MAGNESIA
BLUE LABEL ASPIRIN TABLETS
BLUE LABEL SEIDLITZ POWDERS
BLUE LABEL EPSOM SALTS
BLUE LABEL GLAUBER SALTS
MAKE YOUR BUYWORD "BLUE LABEL"
Packed and Guaranteed by
THE MARTIN MANUFACTURING CO. LTD.
ROE STREET, BELFAST.

RUPTURE.—A Blake Truss with air-cushion pads gives perfect security, comfort, and support; prices from 5s each.—Blake's Medical Stores, Ltd. 9 Garfield Street, Belfast.

SURGICAL Rubber Goods of every description Syringes, Sprays, Enemas, &c. Call or write for our free illustrated catalogues.—Blake's Medical Stores, 9 Garfield Street, Belfast; also 14 Pottinger's Entry, off High Street.

MONEY TO LEND.

LOANS
£10 to £500
with or without security.
S. FREEMAN & CO., Garfield Chambers
(Licensed Moneylenders)
GARFIELD STREET, BELFAST.
Established 1885 'Phone No. Belfast 24390

LOANS
With or Without Security.
H. GOLDRING 109 Donegall Street BELFAST.
(Licensed Moneylender). Phone 20564.

LOANS
£20 to £10,000
With or Without Security.
MASON & WOOD, LTD.
Sawers Chambers, 12 High St., Belfast.
Phone—20544. Licensed Moneylenders.

Southern Loan Co. Ltd.
LOANS £3 to £500.
With or Without Security.
49 VICTORIA ST., BELFAST.
'Phone 26962. Licensed Moneylenders

LOANS
£20 TO £10,000
WITH OR WITHOUT SECURITY.
Northern Irish Trust Ltd.,
12 HIGH STREET, BELFAST.
'Phone 24562. Licensed Moneylenders.

LOANS
WITH OR WITHOUT SECURITY.
R. GOLDRING, 35 Victoria St., Belfast
Licensed Moneylender.

LOANS, with or without security.—M. Herman, Registered Moneylender, 12 High Street, Belfast.

LOANS, £10 to £10 000, without security.—Capital, 17 Bridge Street, Belfast. Phone 21653. Registered Moneylender.

LOANS £10 upwards, with or without security.—H. M. Selig, Albert Buildings, Church Street, Portadown (Phone 274); 1 Cullybackey Road, Ballymena (Phone 280); M'Grath Buildings, King's Gate Street, Coleraine (Phone 318); 7 Foyle Street, Londonderry (Phone 2150); 3 Market Square, Dungannon (Phone 186). Licensed Moneylender.

DOGS.

DON'T FORGET
DONAGHADEE CAGE BIRD, PIGEON AND DOG SHOW.
MONDAY, 26th December.
Entries will be received Morning of Show.

BEAUTIFUL Cocker Puppy for Sale, 3 months old.—10 Gipsy Street.

FOR Sale, Cocker Pups, well bred, six weeks old.—Wilson, Beagh, Maghera.

FOR Sale Sable-White Collie Pups, pedigree; also Young Bitch.—Johnston, Craigboy, Donaghadee.

FOR Sale, Blue-roan pedigree Cocker Bitch, cheap to good home; also six Puppies (4 Cockers and 2 Labradors), selling cheap. Apply Young, Pound Road, Magherafelt.

GREYHOUNDS.—For Sale, three Pups, nine months old, by No Pep—Maid of Chance; over distemper.—78 M'Clure Street.

SCOTTIE Terrier Pup for Sale, highest pedigree.—Thompson, Westencroft, Antrim Road, Glengormley.

APARTMENTS TO LET.

KNOCK.—Board-Residence, suit professional, commercial, or retired gentleman; every convenience; garage. Phone 62-2231.

APARTMENTS WANTED.

WANTED, Christian Lady to cook dinner and tea for two; sleep out; no Sunday work; Antrim Road.—Box 4549a.

YOUNG Man (R.C.) desires comfortable Digs in quiet home; central; no other boarders. Box 4548a.

Coal
Queen Arley (Best English Coal) 48/- Per Ton
Arley Cobbles - - - - 48/- „
Best Orrell Coal - - - 53/- „
Harcourt Coal (Special) - 55/- „
Phurnod Smokeless Coal - 52/- „
One Shilling per Ton Discount for Cash.
Delivery in country districts of Northern Ireland at moderate extra charge.
F. E. HARCOURT & CO., LTD., 41 High Street. Telephone 22488

PUBLIC NOTICES.

The SPICE of VARIETY
Y.M.C.A. HALL, BOXING NIGHT, 26th DECEMBER, 1938
BELFAST EXCELSIOR MALE CHOIR
(WM. BOYD, Conductor).
ADELAIDE BEATTIE (Soprano), ANN MORROW (Contralto), BILLY BROWN (Wizard of the Accordion), RUBY BROWN (in "Taps"), and JIMMY STEEN (Belfast's own Character Comedian). Programme compered by ALEX. STEWART.
At the Piano and Organ, WM. A. REA (A.R.C.M.).
Admission: 1/- and 1/6
Doors Open 6-45.
Popular Melodies on Organ from 7-15 till 7-45.

CAPRONI BANGOR Phone 5
MONDAY, Dec. 26. 8-30 p.m.—1-30 a.m.
BANGOR C. & R.F. CLUB ANNUAL CARNIVAL DANCE
FRIDAY, Dec. 30. 9 p.m.—2 a.m.
BALLYHOLME YACHT CLUB ANNUAL CARNIVAL DANCE
Evening Dress. Subscription, 3/6
PLEASE BOOK YOUR TABLES EARLY

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.
Visit of Tabernacle Male Choir Glasgow and United Service of Male Voice Praise and Testimony
in Y.M.C.A. (Large Hall),
MONDAY, 2nd JANUARY, 1939.
Full details in Next Saturday's "Telegraph"

STEWART INSTITUTION
(Established 1869).
PALMERSTOWN, CO. DUBLIN.

THIS CHARITABLE INSTITUTION is open for the reception and Training of Children of Both Sexes suffering from slow or defective intellect. Admission is by election or by Payment at rates fixed according to requirements. The Institution is non-sectarian, entirely supported by the charitable public. There is no Endowment Fund, and no grants are received from other sources. At elections Subscribers are entitled to a vote for every half-guinea paid annually, and donors of five guineas to a vote for life.

For particulars apply to the SECRETARY. 'Phone—Dublin 71427

CITY OF GLASGOW FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

IN accordance with the provisions of Rule 15, DELEGATES fall to be elected in the BELFAST 1 DISTRICT for the ensuing three years.

Further particulars may be had on applying to the District Manager at 91a Donegall Street, Belfast.

BETHEL PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY, BERLIN STREET.
GREAT CHRISTMAS CONVENTION
In above Hall on XMAS DAY, BOXING DAY, 26th, and TUESDAY, 27th.
Meetings, 11-30, 3-30, and 7 p.m. each day.
Speakers—Mr. and Mrs. J. B. MARTIN (Evangelists), Mr. W. J. CORBETT, and Mr. J. WOODSIDE.

ELECTROLYSIS.

MRS. SEYMOUR RECEIVES LADIES DAILY at 105 GREAT VICTORIA STREET for the guaranteed permanent removal of superfluous hair, moles, etc. Appearance of skin on day of treatment quite normal. No scarring. Practically painless. Absolute privacy. Success certain. 'Phone 22684.

ALEXANDRA H. P. S.
DRAWING OF PRIZES.

3021	0053	1983	0724	1747	5331
4226	2428	4417	1528	0242	4341
6488	0184	2267	0577	2244	3296
5608	4333	0906	1508	1579	1932
7619	3226	6820	3862	3340	0128
4423	1025	0223	0656	4573	1223
1660	7530	0442	4750		

Prizes can be had at 766 Shore Road, Belfast.

RESTAURANTS.

WHITEHALL RESTAURANT
ANN STREET. Telephone: 21038.
Open 8 a.m. till 12 midnight and All Day Sunday.
Special 4-Course Lunch 1/6, including Roast Turkey and Plum Pudding. 3-Course Lunch 1/-. 1/6 Teas, including Roast Turkey. Also 1/- Teas, including Bacon and Egg. Large and Small Parties Catered for. Private Room. Open All Day Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Special Menus.

HAZELWOOD Cafe, Bellevue, for your next dance children's party, card party or other function, moderate charges; personal attention. Phone 46488

MOTOR-CARS.

FOR SALE.

MORRIS 10 h.p. Saloon De Luxe, 1934, recently overhauled and reconditioned.

STANDARD 12 h.p. Saloon De Luxe, 1937, in showroom condition.

AUSTIN 12-6 Saloon, 1931, recently overhauled, in good condition.

NEW Fords supplied from stock. Your Old Car taken in part payment for any make of New Car.

FRED J. Jordan & Co. 333-7 Albertbridge Road.

AUSTIN Heavy 12-4 Saloon, splendid condition; Austin Nippy Two-seater, nice little car. After 7, 183 North Road.

FOR Sale, 1932 Armstrong-Siddeley, taxed, any trial; bargain, £27.—Clandeboye Garage, Belfast Road, Bangor.

FOR Sale, Buick Car, 1931 Straight Eight, in good running order, £12; taxed; owner leaving Ireland. Apply 22 Dublin Road, Lisburn.

INSURANCES (quarterly).—Hire purchase. Sam Martin, 18 Donegall Street. Phone 2:444.

YOUR Car Insured, best terms, best companies, with John Hill, 73 May Street, Belfast.

MOTOR CYCLES.

M'INTYRE Bros., May Street, are Sole Distributors for Ariel, Francis-Barnett, New Imperial, O.K. Supreme, Rudge, Triumph, and Velocette Motor Cycles; catalogues free; exchanges and easy payments.

FOR HIRE.

8d PER MILE
Austin 4 Passenger Cars, chauffeur driven, 4d per mile after 10 miles.
FAST TAXIS, LTD. 'Phone 58011

BELTAX HIRE CARS LTD.
Phone 27211

A first-class Removal and Storage Service; estimates free.—Wilton, Crumlin Road.

COWAN, 16 Albion Street, reliable Furniture Removers and Carriers; pianos carefully handled; estimates free. Phone 24371.

CURRAN Bros., Furniture Removers by land or sea; Carriers, Warehousemen, Export Packers; Removals undertaken to all parts of world.—10 Albert Street. Phone 26446; Night 67204.

MOTOR Driver, sober and reliable, at your service at all times. Phone Belfast 24480.

SEVEN-SEATER Motors for Hire, weddings and dance parties a speciality; also Hire a Car and drive yourself.—47 Shamrock Street Ravenhill Road.

RADIO.

WE CHOOSE our Radio carefully. Our selection is based on Knowledge and Experience.
WE KNOW that MARCONIPHONE has quality supreme.
WE RECOMMEND
MODEL 855. 13½ Gns.
Press Button—Superhet—All-Electric—All-Wave — 5-Valve — External Speaker Connections—Tone Control.
SETS TO SUIT ALL.
EASY PAYMENT TERMS.
PART EXCHANGE.
FREE DEMONSTRATIONS.
Extra Loud Speaker wired to any room, inclusive charge £2-10-0.
Consult the Appointed Agents:
Pattersons of Bridge St.
ROBERT PATTERSON & SONS LTD. BELFAST.

ALL classes of New and Second-hand Radio Parts stocked; prices reasonable.—White's 159 Durham Street.

ALL-WAVE Radio, 6-Valve, A.C., cost £17 17s; also Gramophone Pick-up (Ediswan), best offers accepted.—12 Sandhill Gardens. Phone 54168.

ALL makes British and American Receivers Repaired; American Parts and Valves stocked; Car Radio Experts.—Radio & Battery Service Co., 32 Fountain Street. Phone 20196

TO BE LET OR SOLD.

THE PROUD POSSESSOR
of a home is a contented citizen. Thousands have saved the deposit for their own houses through the Subscription Shares Department of the "Halifax." 10/- a month in 14 years becomes over £114 with annual bonuses in addition. Ask for free booklet
HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY
ASSETS EXCEED £122,000,000.
District Office 1 Donegall Square West; Bangor Office, 139-141 Main Street; Coleraine Office, 5 The Diamond; Londonderry Office, 8 Shipquay Street; Newtownards Office, 2 Regent Street; Larne, Point Street; Ballymena, 11 Thomas Street.

FINAGHY.—For Sale, Semi-Villa, 3 large bedrooms, bathroom, w.c. separate, 2 reception, working kitchen, cloakroom, garden; £40 deposit and 14s 9d weekly will purchase.—M'Caughan, 26 Corn Market.

FOR Sale, between Dunmurry and Finaghy, fronting Lisburn Road, modern Detached Villa; worth inspection. Keys at M'Caughan's, 26 Corn Market.

TO Let, fronting Lisburn Road, Finaghy; 4-bedroomed Flat with living-room and working kitchen downstairs, garden at the rear.—M'Caughan, 26 Corn Market.

16/- per Week Free.—Neat House to Let, past Cliftonville tram terminus; 2 sitting-rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, electric light, garden; in good order; immediate possession. W. F. Neill, 40 Victoria Square.

15/6 per Week Free.—Choice House to Let, Cliftonville, 2-3 bedrooms, bathroom, electric, large garden; lovely position.—W. F. Neill, Estate Agent, 40 Victoria Square.

FOR Sale, Semi-Villa, 2 reception, 3 bedrooms; £450. Apply George Crooks, Breda Park, Saintfield Road.

GLENGORMLEY.—For Sale, 2 Semi-detached Villas, Glencairn Park; 2 reception, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, and usual conveniences; inspection invited. Apply Jim M'Farlane, Glenburn Avenue, Glengormley.

LISBURN.—For Sale or to Let, Bungalow, 2 and 3, bath, electric light, gardens; also Semi-detached Villas, similar. Apply W. J. Law, Rosevale, Moira Road, Lisburn. Phone Lisburn 2371.

NEILL'S Hill Park (No. 3).—To Let, £52 free, 2 reception, 3 bedrooms, large garden and electric; will decorate.—S. M'Cullagh, 81 Antrim Road Phone 44315.

REAVILLE Park, Dundonald.—To Let, Semi-detached Villas, two and three.—Thomas Robinson & Sons, Builders, Ballyhackamore.

SELL or Let, Semi-Villa, 59 Knockbreda Road, 2 living, 3 bedrooms, scullery, bath, electric, garden; nice situation.—Garrett, 20 May Street.

TO Let, 101 Woodvale Road, 3 reception, 4 bedrooms, kitchen, electric, gas; select district newly decorated; low rent.

TO Let, modern Dwelling, 154 Ulsterville Avenue, 2 reception, 3 bedrooms; rent £52 free.—Marshall & Montgomery, Innis Place. Phone 21475.

TO Let, Sunningdale Park North, Semi-Villa, 2 reception, tiled working kitchen, double tubs, pantry, tiled bathroom and lavatory, 4 bedrooms, store in roof space, garage; rent £60 and taxes. Apply J. Blessington & Co., Wellington Place. Phone 25635.

HOUSES WANTED.

PROFESSIONAL Man (English author) and Wife would gratefully caretake Cottage, Northern Ireland, long or short period.—Box PX8934

LOST AND FOUND.

BROWN Fur-backed Glove lost, Friday evening between Ambassador Cinema, Cregagh Road, and Hillsborough Drive. Will finder please return to 48 Hillsborough Drive.

LOST, Black Handbag containing sum of money, &c.; reward.—1 Lansdowne Park.

LOST from 9 Chatsworth Street, Blue Persian Cat (Male), Wednesday; finder rewarded; police notified.

LOST on Friday, 16th December, Black and White Cat, vicinity Newtownards Road; reward.—55 Newtownards Road.

LOST, Gent.'s Umbrella, cane handle, 12th December; Cregagh district; reward.—Box 4555a.

LOST, believed straying in Knock district, Airedale Dog. Will finder notify address on collar medal or phone Belfast 54463. Reward.

LOST on Thursday evening, probably in Cregagh Road tram, Lady's Right-hand Black Fur-backed Glove. Reward at 266 Woodstock Road.

FOUND, Smooth-haired Terrier, black markings.—U.S.P.C.A., Whiteabbey.

FOUND, Sum of Money, Queen's Road. Apply 37 London Road.

SEASIDE HOUSES TO LET.

BANGOR.—To Let, Furnished Semi-Villa; 3 minutes station, bus; 2-3, bath; clean, comfortable; best beds obtainable; cheap.—Box P02730a.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WOULD anyone adopt or nurse Baby Boy, 4 months; 10s weekly.—Box P4536a.

10 Miles—I wish you health, happiness, and prosperity.

PREMISES WANTED.

BOOKMAKER'S Office wanted in Belfast or adjoining town.—Box 4507a.

WANTED, spacious Warehouse on ground floor; £75 free; Queen Street area.—Box 4515.

This Week's News in Pictures. See the "Weekly Telegraph."

PREPAID ADVERTISING RATES.

Business Advertisements (Ordinary Type), 10/- per single column inch.

Display Type and Illustrated Advertisements, 12/6 per single column inch. Whole page, 23¼ins. x 16¼ins., £100; half-page, 11⅝ins. x 16¼ins., £50. Page advertisements are not accepted for Page One. No advertisements are taken for the Back Page except ear spaces next Title.

Extra rates are charged for guaranteed positions.

Ear spaces when vacant—Front page 30s; back page £2.

Reader Advertisements (with word "Advt." or a number at end), 2s per line, 20s per inch; under "Brevities," 2/6 per line.

Public Board Advertisements, Municipal Election Addresses, Legal, High Court, and Public Notices, 1/- per line.

Government Advertisements, Parliamentary Notices, Colonial Loans, Banking Reports, Company Meeting Reports, Parliamentary Election Advertisements, 1/3 per line.

Prospectus, 1/3 per line; £18 per single Column.

Sporting Advertisements, 2/- per line (minimum 10/-); 26/- per inch.

Amusements, Ordinary Type, 10/- per inch; Display Type, 12/6 per inch.

Auctions and Church Notices, 9d per line.

PREPAID CHARGES.
SITUATIONS VACANT, SITUATIONS WANTED, FOR SALE, TO LET, LOST AND FOUND ADVERTISEMENTS, &c.
TWELVE WORDS OR UNDER, 1/- PER INSERTION.

Each Additional Word 1d per insertion.

Matrimonial and Personal Advertisements, 3d per word; set in Capitals, 6d per word; 1s 6d the minimum.

Remittances by post for small sums should be in stamps or postal order crossed & Co.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

The Words "Wanted," "To be let," or "For Sale," &c., &c., must in all cases appear in Advertisements to ensure their proper classification.

The Proprietors will not be responsible for errors in Advertisements received by Telephone.

EMPLOYMENT WITH INVESTMENT.

The Proprietors accept no responsibility for the investments offered to readers, who are in all cases advised to investigate all information supplied and seek legal advice before parting with their money.

Parties replying to advertisements must not under any circumstances send original testimonials.

The Reply Boxes not being intended for Trade Lists, Circulars, or Samples, envelopes containing same will not be delivered, and no responsibility is undertaken for accidents, omissions, or mistakes.

Every care is taken to ensure the prompt insertion of all Advertisements and accurate delivery to Advertisers of Replies to their Advertisements, but the Proprietors and Publishers do not guarantee the insertion of an Advertisement on any specified day, or at all, and will not be liable for any loss occasioned by the failure of an Advertisement to appear on any specified date, or at all, and whether by reason of any combination of workmen, strike, lock-out, or any cause not under the Proprietors and Publishers' control, or any cause whatever.

Advertisements and Replies are only accepted subject to the above conditions.

The "BELFAST TELEGRAPH" can be Posted Daily to Subscribers at the following Prepaid Rates:—

6 Months	32s 6d
12 Months	65s

BELFAST OFFICE: ROYAL AVENUE.
'Phone 22411 (10 lines).
Telegrams: Baird, Belfast.
Between 6 and 8 p.m. the Advertising Department telephone number is 22415.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

PARTIES REPLYING TO ADVERTISEMENTS MUST NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, SEND ORIGINAL TESTIMONIALS.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.
VACANCIES FOR PILOTS.

CANDIDATES ARE REQUIRED IN LARGE numbers for Short Service Commissions to train and serve as Pilots. No previous flying experience is necessary.

AGE 17½ TO 25 YEARS.

They must be educated to the standard of the School Certificate. Unmarried. Good physique.

GRATUITY OF £300 PAYABLE.

Appointments are for four years, followed by six years Reserve service.

Apply by postcard to AIR MINISTRY (Dept. S.7/LK), LONDON.

BANGOUR MENTAL HOSPITAL, BROXBURN, WEST LOTHIAN, SCOTLAND.
WANTED, PROBATIONER NURSES.
Applicants must be STRONG, WELL-EDUCATED WOMEN, over 18 years of age. Training is given to cover the requirements of the General Nursing Council Examination. Salary beginning at £40 per annum, with Board, Lodging, Laundry and Uniform. For Form of Application apply to Matron.

BAND wanted to accompany Lodge to Finaghy, 12th July. Give full particulars, terms, &c., Box PX9005

BOY leaving school wanted for Solicitors' Office; smart appearance essential. Apply in own handwriting to Box PX9009

OPTICIAN.—Wanted a young experienced Assistant, capable of taking control; good prospects. State salary expected and particulars, &c., Box P4530.

PAWNBROKING.—Wanted, Apprentice; good writer; Boy Scout preferred. Reply to Box 2645

SHEPHERD wanted. Apply Robert Kennedy, The Glen Dundrod, Co. Antrim.

WANTED immediately, intelligent Girl for Lending Library. Apply Box 4529a.

WANTED immediately, experienced Waitress for city Cafe. Address here. 4543a

WANTED, experienced Ploughman; married man preferred; free cottage; Protestant. Box P1319.

WANTED, Chauffeuse-Secretary to Commercial Traveller for N. Ireland ground; R.C., 30-35. State full particulars, wages expected, copies of references, &c.; must be willing to travel, all expenses paid while on journey; indoor while at home; none but those fully qualified to fill above position need apply.—Box 4541a.

YOUNG Lady wanted for Office Work; good appearance; must be able to interview. Age, experience, Box 4566a.

DOMESTIC SERVANTS WANTED.

DAILY Maid required for Knock; two in family; small modern house; no Sunday duty; 10s weekly; reference required. Reply Box P2720.

MRS. Walker's Agency, 64 Cedar Avenue, requires immediately reliable Girl about 19 for England, fare paid. Disengaged—Cook-General, 2 years, reference.

WANTED immediately, experienced Cook-General and Housemaid; good references essential; £1 week clear; doctor's house.—M'Auley, 118 Adelaide Street, Blackpool.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

CANADIAN War Veteran wants Work, Painter and Handyman.—M'Gill, c/o 14 Redcliffe Street.

CHAUFFEUR, free New Year, 30, single, 1½ years experience in London; ten years clean licence (Belfast); excellent reference; good mechanic, keen gardener. Address here. 1290

GENT, with 20 years wholesale connection in Lancashire wants to represent on commission Manufacturer all classes Linens, also Cotton Table Cloths, bulk business.—J. Feely, 52 Green Lane, Helmshore, near Manchester.

MOTOR-DRIVING.

MOTOR Driving and Running Repairs thoroughly taught; proficiency guaranteed.—City Motor School, 29 Grosvenor Road. Phone 25360

PICK-U-UP Belfast, any time. Learn Driving, Running Repairs; proficiency guaranteed.—Boyd, Clogher, Lisburn.

EDUCATION.

ROYAL BELFAST ACADEMICAL INSTITUTION.

WANTED immediately a SCIENCE MASTER. Must be Honours Graduate, with special qualifications in Chemistry and subsidiary Physics. Salary £235, rising by £15 to £500. Full allowance for experience. Applications with copies of Testimonials to be sent to the Registrar.

STEVENSON, Lecturer on How to Obtain a beautiful Voice. — "Expert" ("Belfast Telegraph").

STEVENSON Violinist.—"Held his audience enthralled 1½ hours" ("News-Letter").

STEVENSON, Vocalist.—"A robust baritone" ("Northern Whig").

VIOLIN and Voice Production: Private Tuition.—Stevenson, 7 Jocelyn Avenue, Woodstock Road.

LANGUAGES.—French, German, Italian, &c.; Classes and Private Lessons.—3 Botanic Avenue. Phone 24982.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

GOOD make German Overstrung Piano, figured walnut, almost new, cost 68 gns., for £13 10s. Address here. 4511a

FOR SALE.

NOBLE'S
QUEEN'S QUAY AND WHITEHALL BUILDINGS, ANN STREET.
'Phone: 57288 (2 lines).
WISH THEIR MANY CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
And
A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.
COAL
ESTD. 1878.

JUST PURCHASED
250 GENUINE NEW ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY WATERPROOF COATS.
All sizes. Guaranteed Waterproof.
Worth 47s 6d. To Clear at Special Price, 22s 6d, while they last.
Money returned within 14 days if not Genuine Waterproof.
5,000 PAIRS ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY TROUSERS,
At 3s 6d, 4s 6d, and 5s 6d per Pair.
1,000 PAIRS "B" CONSTABULARY TROUSERS,
At 3s, 4s, and 5s per Pair.
W. V. HOGG,
Government Army Contractor, Newry.

TOY Prams, 5s 11d, 6s 11d, to 63s; Pramettes, Folding Cars, 12s 6d to 45s; Tricycles, 5s 11d, 7s 11d, to 55s; open late.—Samuel Johnston.

PRAMS, Folding Cars, Pramettes, splendid selection; Prams Repaired and exchanged. Phones 24961, 25976.—Samuel Johnston, 45 Great Victoria Street (near G.N.R. Station), 187 Donegall Street Upper.

A—The New Gas Griddle is speedy and economical. On Sale at all gas showrooms. Order now.

FOR Sale, Fur Coat with skunk collar and cuffs; also Fox Fur.—3 Mountview Street.

FOR Sale, Strong-room Door, 6ft. x 38 inches, in perfect order. Apply 30 Victoria Street.

FIRE! Fire! Fire!—75 per cent. of minor fires in Belfast are caused by defective or badly-fitted fireplaces. Have your Grates and Kitchenettes fitted by us, and be assured that they are installed properly.—William Willis & Co., 25-27 Dublin Road.

GINGER Wine for Christmas. Dobbin's Zinvin, now sold by Stinson, Chemist, North Street, and Steede, Chemist, Antrim Road. Same price, same delicious flavour.

KITCHENETTES, cheapest in Belfast; see for yourself; easy payments arranged.—Mellon & Sands, 35-37 Dublin Road. Open Saturday till 6 o'clock.

LOOSE Covers for 3-piece Suite, £4 17s 6d; good quality cretonne.—Bennett, 41 Bradbury Place, Belfast.

MEN'S Slightly-worn Clothing, splendid qualities; send 2d for catalogue.—Howells, Dept. E., 92 Upper Clapton Road, London, E.5.

WALLPAPERS direct from mills; 250 patterns post free.—Osborne Mills, Dept. 10, Rochdale Road, Manchester.

WINDOW Blind Specialist.—Jacksons, 189 Sandy Row (Lisburn Road end). Established 1900.

PERSONAL.

ALWAYS Hooton Mitchell for Glasses.

GENTLEMAN with £3,000 wishes meet Middle-aged Lady, means (if any); genuine.—Box P2748.

HARRIS Rundle, Health Insurance Optician.

IRISH—Meeting you as arranged.—Scottish.

MEMORIES, December, 1916. Please write Box 4565a, Belfast Telegraph.

WIDOWER desires acquaintance of Christian Girl or Widow.—Box 4554a.

X E.N.—Ever. Love.—A.Y.

SPECIFIED ARTICLES WANTED.

GOLD urgently wanted. Highest prices paid. Also Jewellery, Antique Silver, Old Sheffield Plate, &c.—R. M'DOWELL & CO., LTD., 18 High Street, Belfast. 'Phone 23026.

BEST prices given for old Gold, Jewellery, &c.—City Pawn Office, 121-123 Cromac Street.

LARGE Front Bed-Sitting-room, use of house, cooker; suit married couple.—12 Bentinck Street, near N. C. Railway.

WANTED, all classes of Fittings and Fixtures to start butcher's shop. State lowest prices to Box P2717a.

WANTED—Old Glass, China, Figures, Brass, Grandfather Clocks, Furniture, &c.—John Gribben, 28 North Queen Street. Phone 24323.

OUR OVERSEAS MAIL.

DESPATCH AND ARRIVAL.

COMPILED FOR THE "TELEGRAPH."

COUNTRY	Next Despatch	Box Closing	Next Mail due
Argentine, Paraguay and Uruguay	Dec. 27	noon	Dec. 27
(3) Australia	—	—	—
Bahamas and Bermuda	Dec. 29	noon	—
Bolivia	Dec. 27	noon	—
Brazil	Dec. 27	noon	—
Canada per ss Duchess of Atholl	Dec. 31	7. 0 p.m.	—
Canary Isles	Dec. 29	4.30 p.m.	—
Central America, British Honduras, Guatemala, Honduras Rep., Nicaragua, Panama, Salvador, Cuba, Mexico	Dec. 29	noon	Dec. 28
Chili (ex North)	Dec. 27	noon	—
Chili (North)	Dec. 29	noon	—
*China via Siberia	Dec. 28	5.35 p.m.	Dec. 28
China	Dec. 29	8.15 a.m.	—
Colombia	Dec. 27	noon	Dec. 28
Costa Rica	Dec. 29	noon	—
(3) East Africa (Kenya, Uganda and Zanzibar)	—	—	Dec. 28
Ecuador	Dec. 29	noon	—
(5) Egypt, Soudan and Palestine, etc.	—	—	Dec. 28
Europe (all parts)	Daily 8.15 a.m., noon, 4.30, 5.35, 7.0 p.m.		—
Guianas, British, Dutch and French	Dec. 27	5.35 p.m.	—
(5) India Aden and Iraq	—	—	Dec. 28
Jamaica	Dec. 29	noon	Dec. 28
Japan via Siberia	Dec. 28	5.30 p.m.	Dec. 28
*Japan via Vancouver	Dec. 31	8.15 a.m.	—
Madeira	Dec. 28	5.35 p.m.	—
Newfoundland	Dec. 31	8.15 a.m.	Dec. 28
(3) New Zealand	—	—	Dec. 28
(2) South Africa	—	—	—
(3) Straits Settlements, Siam, French Indo-China, etc.	—	—	—
U.S.A. per ss Washington	Dec. 28	7. 0 p.m.	Dec. 28
Venezuela	Dec. 27	noon	—
West Coast of Africa—Belgian Congo, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast and Nigeria	Dec. 29	4.30 p.m.	Dec. 31
West Indies—Leeward Isles, Barbados, Trinidad, Grenada	Dec. 27	5.35 p.m.	Dec. 31

* Correspondence to be forwarded by this route or opportunity must be specially so addressed.

(2) By Air twice weekly.
(3) By Air three times weekly.
(5) By Air five times weekly.

"BIRD OF PASSAGE" PAUSES.

WILL NOW MAKE STAY OF MONTH.

John M'Kinney (37), who was described as "a bird of passage," but whose last Belfast address was Carlisle Street, was sentenced to a month's imprisonment at the Belfast Custody Court to-day for having been in the warehouse premises of Glover Bros., 176 Upper North Street, for an unlawful purpose yesterday.

Head Constable W. J. Reid prosecuted.

GRIM DEVIL'S ISLE.

WHERE IT NOW STANDS ALONE.

TRANSPORTATION RELIC.

OTHERS THAT HAVE DIED OUT.

An escaped convict from Devil's Island who reached Trinidad in a native canoe records a sympathetic British official there as remarking that he could not understand two things about the French—their Foreign Legion and the penal colony in French Guiana.

The recent consignment to Guiana of the first shipload of prisoners in three years revived the controversy over Devil's Island which, ever since Captain Alfred Dreyfus spent five lonely years there about forty years ago has epitomised for the world the entire penal colony (writes Jan Hasbrouck, in the "New York Times Magazine").

Since 1763, when 14,000 unfortunates from the Paris underworld were sent to Guiana—only to die to a man within a few years—the colony has troubled the conscience of a nation which is proud of being a leader in social thought and action.

Nearly 100,000 Frenchmen have been condemned to labour in this land where white men cannot do hard physical toil, yet the population of Guinea to-day is a tenth of that number.

Devil's Island is one of a group of three—Les Isles du Salut—Isles of Health! The other two are Royale and St. Joseph each a good deal larger than Ile du Diable, so named for the violent currents which surround it. St. Joseph houses 300 prisoners in sunken, solitary cells.

DANGEROUS CRIMINALS.

Three to five years was a common sentence here for misconduct elsewhere in the colony; and a block for those whose minds have cracked under the regime has always been well filled.

On Royale is the notorious Case Rouge—Bloody Barracks—where are caged several hundred of France's most dangerous criminals.

In 1936 the Blum Government moved to suppress Guiana as a penal colony. Escapes from the Guiana camps and stories told about the way men lived there prompted the action.

The Blum move in the matter was side-tracked—although no more convicts were sent to Guiana—until last summer, when the Daladier Cabinet included, with 107 other measures passed under its extraordinary powers, the Abolishing Bill.

Subsequently, however, the Government reversed the decision on finding that there were not sufficient prison facilities in France for long-term convicts, and decided to deport approximately 1,000 "habitual criminals" in two shiploads.

Devil's Island thus remains the last of the true "transportation" colonies—sparsely populated regions which great powers have sought to develop by the forced exile of criminals for life. In various other spots throughout the world the system lives on in the lonely existence of surviving exiles.

ISLAND OF MURDERERS.

There are, for example, the Andaman Islands—300 miles from the nearest mainland in the Bay of Bengal—where desperate criminals from British India were sent from the time of the Mutiny in 1857 down to 1921. Known as the Islands of Murderers—two-thirds of the convicts were committed for capital crimes—the Andamans are perhaps the most successful venture in penal colonisation.

The deportees did not come from temperate Europe, but were native Indians. After a turn at hard labour a prisoner was released and might send for his family. He took up a normal life, usually becoming a fisherman. He was prohibited only from returning to the mainland. The penal population of the Andamans once reached 12,000, but by 1926 was down to about 6,000.

As late as 1932 Spain deported, for political activities, a group of titled noblemen. They were sent to Villa Cisneros, capital of Rio de Oro, a steaming tropic marshland bordering the Sahara Desert, on the west coast of Africa. Here they joined less than a thousand whites—many of them also deportees—in a territory the size of Nevada.

Portugal, too, has sent her recalcitrant citizens to Africa up to recent times. They have gone to Angola, but in such small numbers that the local population has been able to assimilate them.

For three centuries Russia has used her vast Asiatic lands as a living burial ground for citizens who disturbed her peace from personal or political motives. Before the Trans-Siberian Railroad was pushed to the Pacific the exiles trudged to the distant salt mines on foot in a miserable stream estimated to have averaged 18,000 a year at the height of Czarist repression.

MONASTERY PRISON.

The island of Sakhalin, in the Okhotsk Sea, off the coast of Manchuria, was colonised by Russian convicts sent by ship via Suez. But here again colonisation by criminals failed and the project was abandoned.

Soviet Russia still uses Siberia as a place of exile for her political and economic nonconformists But under Communist rule particular notoriety attaches to the bare, marshy island of Solovetsky in the White Sea. Here in a dark fifteenth century monastery are some 3,500 prisoners.

For many decades Italy has sent both criminals and those "agin" the Government to islands off her coast. On Pianoso, Gorgona, Monte Cristo, Elba, and Capraia many unfortunates have "worked out their redemption," and they or their descendants still populate the islands.

However, not until Mussolini needed a place where those who objected to Fascism could be safely quarantined did an Italian penal colony attract world attention. The Lipari Islands, a volcanic group just north of Sicily, were chosen, and several hundred of the most famed anti-Fascists have been sent there.

STORIES OF BRUTALITY.

Francesco Nitti, nephew of the former Premier who fled Italy because his views were not those of Il Duce, escaped from Lipari in 1929 and wrote a book in which he asserted that the chief affliction of the prisoners was monotony. They were neither forced to work nor confined to jail. Nevertheless, stories of brutality and of men being "shot while trying to escape" have filtered to the outside world.

But in 1932, as part of a general amnesty celebrating the tenth anniversary of Fascism, Lipari was abolished as a penal settlement.

So in 1938 no other true penal colony is maintained by a Great Power. Even should France finally stop sending convict ships to Devil's Island the condemned of the past will live on in Guiana, and Andamans, Sakhalin, and elsewhere for many years to come and individual political prisoners — whose influence makes it imperative that they be isolated —will doubtless still be sent to far-away places.

The "BELFAST TELEGRAPH" can be Posted Daily to Subscribers at the following Prepaid Rates:—

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To-day's Features

Page
Boy Scout news 4
Christmastide radio 5
Linen trade review 5
Contract bridge 6
Boys' Brigade notes 7
Yuletide in the wild 8
Xmas postmen's job 8
"Rathcol" on music 9
The week-end page 10
Financial review ... 11
Market reports 11
Lady Oxford 12
Women's topics 12
Obituary 13

WEATHER AHEAD:
Milder, but more frost

BELFAST TELEGRAPH ADVERTISEMENTS.

SMALL PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS for insertion in the "Belfast Telegraph" may be handed to the undernoted Sub-agents:—

WM. ALLEN, 254 Newtownards Road.
Mrs. BEAMISH, Cavehill P.O., Antrim Road.
Mrs. CAMPBELL, 255 Castlereagh Road.
BOTANIC GARDENS P.O., 93 University Road. 'Phone 219451.
BOYLE'S MEDICAL HALL, Broadway, Falls Road.
Miss H. M. CLARKE, The Strand Cake Shop, 49 Albertbridge Road. 'Phone 57131.
J. F. CRISPIN, 363 Antrim Road.
A. M. DOUGAN, 117a Oldpark Road.
ED. DOWNING, 369 Ormeau Road.
J. D. FULLERTON, 262 Crumlin Road.
THOS. H. GIFF, 34 Woodvale Road.
ROBERT GILDEA, Main Street, Saintfield.
JAS. C. GRAY, Grocer, Dunmurry.
R. J. HAVARD, Grocer, Gilnahirk.
W. J. HEATRICK, Chemist, Cliftonville Circus.
WM. HUGHES, Newsagent, 91 Belmont Church Road.
S. JONES, Newsagent, 44 Ormeau Road.
ROBERT KENNEDY, Ardenlee Post Office, 103 Cregagh Road.
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R. T. MORRISON, Newsagent, Whiteabbey.
Mrs. MURRAY, 268 Springfield Road.
JOHN M'CLENAGHAN, 104 Abbey Street, Bangor.
A. M'MILLAN, 37 Cregagh Road.
WM. M'MEEKIN, Cavehill Road P.O.
Mrs. E. L. M'ILHAGGER, P.O., 76 Duncairn Gardens.
R. M'MULLAN, 121 Lisburn Road.
Mrs. NELSON, Call Office, Dunmurry.
NEWINGTON POST OFFICE, Mackey Street, Limestone Road.
Miss O'RYAN, 348 Woodstock Road.
HUGH REID, Jones's Buildings, Ballysillan.
WILLIAM REID, 67 Lisavon Street.
Mrs. ROBSHAW, Parkmount Post Office, Shore Road.
ISOBEL SCOTT, 20 Upper Newtownards Road.
E. & M. WATSON, Newsagents, Saintfield Road, Newtownbreda.
J. H. WIGHTMAN, Killyleagh. 'Phone 14.

HOTELS.

BALLYGALLY CASTLE HOTEL.
BOOK NOW FOR CHRISTMAS.
EXCELLENT ACCOMMODATION, UNSURPASSED CUISINE, EVERY COMFORT.
Hotel open throughout the year.
Weddings, Dinners and Dances Catered for.
Terms on application.
Resident Manageress: A. GILLESPIE.

LONDON—BONNINGTON HOTEL, Southampton Row, W.C.1. Accommodates nearly 350 guests. Central. Good Food. Quick Service. Single Room, Bath and Breakfast, 9/6; Doubles, 16/- and 17/-. Most moderate inclusive rates; A.A. & R.A.C.

PORTRUSH.—Criterion Hotel, Golf Terrace; Christmas fare; full Board, 5s daily; fires.

SOUTHPORT.—Hotel Regis, 51 Alexandra Road; modern, central, gardens, garages, free car parking; hot and cold water. Telephone 401711.

BUSINESSES FOR SALE.

BILLIARD Hall, Grosvenor Road (off), as going concern, for Sale; 4 tables and accessories. Rent, particulars and price, apply Box 4527a.

PUBLIC-HOUSE for Sale in town in Co. Down, about 20 miles from Belfast; good going concern; owner going abroad. Apply Box P4192.

MACHINERY.

FOR Sale, 24 h.p. Tangye Diesel Engine, recent model; can be seen working.—2 King Street Mews.

SKIPPER'S BIG RISK

IN NORTH ATLANTIC GALE.

SAVED 20 FROM SINKING SHIP.

A thrilling rescue in a raging gale in the North Atlantic was described when the United States cargo boat Schodack (5,041 tons) picked up the crew of the Norwegian oil tanker Smaragd (1,181 tons), which was sinking 600 miles from the Ambrose Channel.

The captain of the oil-tanker, with whom were his wife and daughter and the 16 members of the crew, are now on their way to New York in the Schodack.

The Smaragd was on her way to Scotland from Norfolk, Virginia, when she encountered a violent storm which wrecked the engines.

By Thursday she was down by the head, and was taking in water fast.

Her weak wireless signals were too feeble to reach the shore, but they were picked up by the Schodack, which immediately turned off her course and forced her way through huge seas to reach the stricken oil-tanker a few hours later.

ALL NIGHT ON BRIDGE.

The weather, however, was far too rough to permit of any attempt at rescue, and all that Captain Clifton Smith, of the Schodack, could do until early morning was to stand on his bridge and watch the tossing lights of the sinking ship, whose bridge was constantly swept by mountainous seas.

Shortly after dawn, Captain Smith decided to take a chance, and, calling for volunteers, launched a lifeboat. This was manned by an officer, eight oarsmen, and a rudderman.

Seven persons, including the captain's wife and daughter, were rescued on the first trip, and the others were brought to safety on two subsequent trips.

The Schodack belongs to the United States Maritime Commission. The Smaragd is registered at Haugesund, Norway.

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

THE CATHEDRAL.

CHRISTMAS DAY.
Holy Communion—8, 10-30 a.m., 12-45 p.m.
Matins—11-30 a.m.
Preachers:
11-30 a.m.—THE LORD BISHOP.
7 p.m.—THE DEAN.
3-30 p.m.—CAROL SERVICE.
Collection for the Choir Boys' Education Fund.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

CHRISTMAS DAY.
Holy Communion—7-30 a.m., 8-30 a.m., 10-20 (Choral), and 12-30.
Matins—11-30 a.m.
Evensong and Carols—7 p.m.
St. Stephen, St. John Evangelist, Holy Innocents. } Holy Communion, 11-30 a.m.

ST. CLEMENT'S PARISH CHURCH.
CHRISTMAS DAY.
8-30, 11-30, and 7—Holy Communion.
11-30—Rev. J. E. V. WAKELY, B.A.
7-0—Rev. W. H. N. FISHER, M.A.

ST. BRIDE'S, JOANMOUNT.

CHRISTMAS DAY.
10 a.m.—Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
3-30 p.m.—Y.P. Carol Service.
6 p.m.—Carol Service.
The Address will be given by the LORD BISHOP OF DOWN, CONNOR AND DROMORE.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S, STRANMILLIS.
CHRISTMAS DAY.
8-30 a.m.—Holy Communion.
11-30—Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
Preacher: THE RECTOR.
7 p.m.—CAROL SERVICE.
Special Instrumental and Vocal Yuletide Music.

ST. COLUMBA'S, KNOCK.
8 a.m.—Holy Communion.
(Offerings for S.A.M.S. and Mission to Lepers).
11-30 a.m.—Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
(Offerings in aid of C.M.S.).
Preacher: THE RECTOR.
7—Evening Prayer and Carols.

ST. JUDE'S PARISH CHURCH.
HOLY COMMUNION
7-30 a.m., 8-30 a.m. and 11-30 a.m.
11-30 a.m.—The RECTOR.
3-30 p.m.—Children's Service. Rev. ALFRED M'KELVIE, B.A.
7 p.m.—Rev. GEORGE A. QUIN, B.A.
Christmas Music at all Services.

KNOCKBREDA PARISH CHURCH.
8-30 a.m.—Holy Communion.
11-30 a.m.—Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
Preacher: Rev. CANON CROOKS, M.A.
7 p.m.—CAROL SERVICE.

ST. SIMON'S, DONEGALL ROAD.
8-30—Holy Communion.
11-30—Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
3-30—Young People's Service.
7—Christmas Carol Service (no sermon).
Special Offerings for Church Missionary Society.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH
(Donegall Pass).
Holy Communion—8-30 a.m., 10-15 a.m., 12-15 p.m.
11-30—Rev. A. V. M'CALLIN, B.D.
7-0—CAROL SERVICE.

ST. STEPHEN'S FREE CHURCH, MILLFIELD.
CHRISTMAS.
7 o'clock:
CAROL AND MESSIAH SERVICE.
Retiring Offertory for Poor Fund.

MORAVIAN CHURCH, OLDPARK RD.

(Near Cliftonville Circus).
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES.
11-30 and 7.
At 7—New Carols by the Choir.
Rev. L. G. SCHOFIELD.
All sittings free. Visitors very welcome.

GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH,

BEERSBRIDGE ROAD.

PASTOR HUGH FRASER

11-30—Subject: "The Honour of His Name."
7—Subject: "The Inn—Outside and Inside."
Soloist: Mr. William Craine.
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICE on MONDAY, 26th Dec., 11 a.m. Praise and Testimony.
SPECIAL WATCH-NIGHT SERVICE
On SATURDAY, 31st December, 10-30 p.m.
Short Messages, Solos, etc.
All heartily invited.

BLOOMFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES.
Morning—8 and 11-30.
Preacher—Rev. R. J. RICE, B.D.
7 p.m.—

CHRISTMAS PRAISE SERVICE

MOUNTPOTTINGER BAPTIST TABERNACLE.

D.V., 11-30 and 7—
Pastor CHARLES WILLOUGHBY, M.A.
Visitors heartily welcome.
All Seats Free.

CLIFTONPARK AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH.
HOME MISSION DAY.
10-15—Bible Class.
11-30 and 7 o'clock—
Pastor WM. WEIR, B.A., B.Sc.
Pastor F. FORBES will report on Home Mission Work at Morning Service.
NEXT SATURDAY:—
WATCH-NIGHT SERVICE, 10-45.
Offering for Jewish Refugee Fund.

WINDSOR BAPTIST CHURCH,

Malone Avenue, Lisburn Road.
11-30 and 7—
Pastor GEO. CUMMING.
3-30 p.m.—Bible Class and Sunday School.
Everybody welcome.

ANTRIM ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH
Services 11-30 and 7.

REV. T. R. GARDINER, M.A.

7 P.M.—CAROL SERVICE

HAYPARK AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH.
11-30 and 7—Pastor I. P. BELL.
THURSDAY—PRAYER MEETING at 8 o'c.
SPECIAL MISSION
BEGINS 1st JANUARY, 1939.
Mr. W. T. C. RANKIN, Nottingham.

SANDOWN ROAD BAPTIST HALL,
Ballyhackamore.
11-30 a.m.—Mr. D. L. JENKINSON.
4 p.m.—Mr. MINNIS MILLS.
7-0 p.m.—RAVENHILL UNITED TESTIMONY MALE CHOIR.

GT. VICTORIA STREET BAPTIST CHURCH.
11-30 and 7—Christmas Messages.
Rev. D. HENDERSON.
Miss Hastie will Sing.

SHANKILL BAPTIST CHURCH,
Tennent Street.
LORD'S DAY, 25th December, at 11-30 and 7—
Pastor J. RAVEY.
All welcome. Come.

EAST END BAPTIST CHURCH
(Templemore Avenue).
11-30—"Worship Him."
7—"The Virgin Birth."
Pastor G. H. WEIR.

STRANDTOWN BAPTIST CHURCH.
11-30—Pastor W. E. CLARKE.
7, Mr. R. G. BASS, Irish Evangelisation Society.
Visitors Cordially Invited.

IRISH EVANGELICAL CHURCH.
Knock Upper Newtownards Road, Opposite Cabin Hill.
11-30—Mr. C. H. GARLAND.
7-0—Rev. JAMES HUNTER, M.A.
Bible Class and Sabbath School, 3-30.
FRIDAY, 30th Dec., at 8 p.m., Mr. JOE WRIGHT (U.F.M.) will (D.V.) tell of his work amongst the Indians of South America, illustrated with lantern slides. All welcome.

IRISH EVANGELICAL CHURCH.
Botanic Avenue.
11-30—Mr. A. IRELAND (Sudan Interior Mission). 7-0—Rev. W. J. GRIER, B.A.

IRISH EVANGELICAL CHURCH.
Lisburn Road. Opposite Cadogan Park.
11-30—Rev. W. J. GRIER, B.A.
7-0—Mr. W. J. M'DOWELL.

IRISH EVANGELICAL CHURCH.
Jocelyn Avenue, Castlereagh Road.
11-30—Mr. W. J. M'DOWELL.
7-0—Rev. J. M'CRACKEN.

IRISH EVANGELICAL CHURCH.
Somerton Road, off Skegoneill Avenue.
11-30—Mr. W. A. SAMPSON.
7-0—Rev. C. E. HUNTER.

IRISH EVANGELICAL CHURCH.
Crossollver Street, off Limestone Road.
11-30—Rev. J. M'CRACKEN.
7-0—Mr. J. JONES.

SPIRITUALISTS' ALLIANCE.

Central Hall, Rosemary St. (S.N.U. Church).
SUNDAY (CHRISTMAS DAY) at 11-30 a.m. and 7 p.m.—
Mr. ARMAND WILSON (London).
Address and Clairvoyance.
No Meetings During Christmas Week.
Next Sunday, 1st January, 1939—
Col. G. J. CARTER, O.B.E. (Glasgow).

CHURCH SERVICES.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SERVICES TO-MORROW.

Albert St.—Rev. T. M'DERMOTT, B.A.
Argyle Place—Rev. W. J. GREGG, B.A.
Ballysillan—Revs. S. N. DUFF, B.A., and J. FORBES, B.A.
Belmont—Revs. R. HYNDMAN, B.A., and W. A. J. BARBOUR, B.A.
Bethany—Revs. A. CROOKS, B.A., and R. U. G. WILLIAMSON, B.A.
Bloomfield—Rev. C. M. YOUNG, B.A.
Broadway—Rev. H. SCOTT, B.A.
Castleton—Rev. A. P. BLACK, M.A.
Cliftonville—Rev. A. F. MOODY, D.D.
Cooke Centenary—Rev. C. CORDNER, M.A.
Cregagh—Rev. D. STEWART, B.A.
Crescent—Revs. H. D. GRIFFITH, B.A., and C. JACKSON, B.Sc.
Duncairn—Rev. J. S. WILSON, B.D.
Eglinton—Rev. J. E. P. BOYD, B.A.
Ekenhead—11-30 and 7, Revs. H. JAMISON and H. OSBORNE, B.A.
Elmwood—Rev. D. FRAZER-HURST, M.A.; 7, United Service in Fitzroy.
Finaghy—Rev. A. MARTIN, B.A.
Fisherwick—Very Rev. J. WADDELL, D.D.; 7, Praise Service.
Fitzroy Ave.—Revs. Dr. WOODBURN; 7, D. FRAZER-HURST, M.A., and Dr. WOODBURN.
Fortwilliam Park—Revs. A. L. HARRISON, B.A., and J. MARK, B.A.
Glengormley—Revs. S. M'KINLEY, M.A.
Gt. Victoria St.—Rev. J. DONALDSON, B.A.
Kirkpatrick Memorial—Rev. J. TOLLAND.
Knock—Rev. E. A. ELLIOTT BURROWS, M.A.
M'Cracken Memorial—11-30 and 3-30, Rev. D. DOWLING, M.A.
M'Quiston Memorial—Rev. Dr. M'ILROY.
Nelson Memorial—Rev. R. MILFORD, B.A.
Newington—Revs. T. M. JOHNSTONE, D.D., and T. M. JOHNSTONE, JUN.
Newtownbreda—Revs. W. R. MEGAW, B.A., and R. H. G. GAMBLE, B.A.
Oldpark—Revs. J. DUNLOP, M.A., and M. BAILIE, B.A.
Orangefield—Rev. W. E. KIRKPATRICK, B.A.
Ravenhill Road—Rev. J. ROSS.
Richview—Revs. K. M. ALEXANDER, M.A., and S. N. DUFF, B.A.
Rosemary St.—Rev. G. D. ERSKINE, B.D.
St. Enoch's—Rev. G. YOUNG, B.A.
Seaview—Revs. J. FORBES, B.A., and K. M. ALEXANDER, M.A.
Stormont—11-30 and 7, Choral Service.
Strand—Rev. W. CHESTNUTT, M.A.
Ulsterville—Rev. S. R. JAMISON, M.A.
Westbourne—Revs. R. J. WRAY, B.A., and J. H. CARSON, M.A.
Windsor—Rev. W. CORKEY, D.D.

ASSEMBLY HALL — 3-30
Special Christmas Service
Rev. F. R. GIBSON, B.A.
Soloist: Miss ISABEL IRWIN.
Praise led by the Choir of Ballysillan Presbyteiran Church.
Organist & Conductor: Mr. J. G. Wilson.

May Street Church
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES
REV. A. WYLIE BLUE
11-30 a.m. and 7 p.m.
CHRISTMAS MUSIC
Evening Subject—Confession of Faith

Donegall Pass Presbyterian Church
REV. H. H. AITCHISON, M.A.
11-30—PEACE AND GOODWILL.
7 o'c.—WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCH.
CHRISTMAS MUSIC AT BOTH SERVICES.
ALL WELCOME. COME EARLY.

CRUMLIN ROAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES.
11-30 and 7—
REV. W. J. HARRISON.
Excerpts from "The Messiah" will be rendered by the Choir at Evening Service.
Visitors cordially invited.

CRUMLIN ROAD BROTHERHOOD

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PRAISE SERVICE

WILL BE GIVEN IN CRUMLIN ROAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, December 25, at 3 p.m.

The following have kindly promised to take part:—
Miss KATHLEEN M'CARLEY, Master BRIAN CORRY, Messrs. WILLIAM KEE, and ALBERT SMITH. Also ALBERT HALL CHOIR (Conductor and Organist, Mr. A. MARTIN).

SHORT CHRISTMAS MESSAGE BY THE PRESIDENT.
COME YOURSELF AND BRING A FRIEND.
All welcome.

SINCLAIR SEAMEN'S CHURCH.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES—
11-30 and 7.
3-30—CAROL SERVICE.
Preachers—
Rev. SAMUEL COCHRANE, B.A., R.N.;
Rev GEORGE V. HERON, B.A.
Soloists:—
Miss BESSIE GRAY.
Mr. S. WEIR M'CORMICK.
Mr. DAVID HAISLEY.
Organist and Choirmaster—
Mr. WILLIAM PIERPOINT.

MALONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
11-30 a.m.
"A CHRISTIAN CHRISTMAS."
3-30 p.m.
CHILDREN'S SERVICE.
7 p.m.
"GUIDANCE TO BETHLEHEM."
The Choir will sing Excerpts from "THE MESSIAH."
Rev. J. STUART CAMERON, M.A., B.D.

COLLEGE SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS SERVICES
11-30—"The Art of Keeping Christmas."
7-30—"Peace on Earth" —Is it Possible?
Rev. W. J. THOMPSON, B.A.
Special Christmas Music by Choir.
Visitors Welcome.

EGLINTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

SUNDAY, 25th DECEMBER.
REV. J. E. P. BOYD. B.A.
Special Christmas Music by the Choir.
Soloists: Miss Napier and Miss Dorothy Walker.

YORK ST. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

11-30 and 7 o'clock:
REV. RUPERT GIBSON, B.A.
Special Christmas Music and Carols.

MOUNTPOTTINGER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
CHRISTMAS SERVICES.
11-30—"Love's Last Plea."
7-0—"The Advent Gospel."
PRAISE SERVICE.
Preacher—Rev. M. A. THOMPSON.

MACRORY MEMORIAL CHURCH.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES.
11-30 and 7—
REV. JAMES PATTERSON, B.A.

WINDSOR CHURCH.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 11-30 and 7.
Rev. WILLIAM CORKEY, M.A., D.D.

TOWNSEND STREET CHURCH.

11-30 and 7—
Rev. J. W. JOHNSTON, M.A.

AGNES STREET CHURCH.

Rev. W. W. PYPER, B.A.
11-30 and 7.
7—Subject: "Born of a Virgin."

BERRY STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
Rev. S. HANNA, B.A., M.B.
11-30—"The Peacemakers."
7-0—"The Magicians."

WOODVALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. W. N. MAXWELL, M.A.
11-30—"The Word Made Flesh."
7—"The Christ Child."

SHANKILL ROAD MISSION CHURCH.
11-30—Mr. W. H. BRICE.
7-0 p.m.—
Rev. A. STANLEY WILLIAMSON.

MEGAIN MEMORIAL CHURCH.
Rev. RICHARD HALL, M.A., B.D.
11-30—"God's Star and God's Leading."
7—"Keeping Christmas with Christ in it."

FIRST Presbyterian Church, Ballymacarrett Paulett Avenue, Opposite Mountpottinger Y.M.C.A.—11-30 and 7 p.m.—Rev. W. J. M'GEAGH, B.A.

CHURCH SERVICES.

DONEGALL SQUARE CHURCH
CHRISTMAS DAY
10-0—HALF-HOUR SERVICE
11-30 and 7—REV. J. W. P. ELLIOTT
Retiring Collections for Childhaven and Craigmore

CARLISLE MEMORIAL CHURCH.

11-30 a.m.:
Rev. JAMES SMYTH, LL.D., D.D.
7 p.m.:
Rev. JASPER ROBINSON, B.A.
Visitors Invited.

UNIVERSITY ROAD CHURCH.
CHRISTMAS MORNING SERVICES
8 o'clock and 11-30:
Rev. J. R. WESLEY RODDIE.
7 p.m.—Rev. ALEXANDER M'CREA, M.A.
Subject:
"The Religious Significance of some Christmas Hymns."
Visitors Welcomed.

METHODIST CHURCH, JOANMOUNT

(OLDPARK ROAD).
11-30 and 7-0—Rev. R. FERGUSON.
XMAS CAROL SERVICE.
At 3-30 by
LYNN MEMORIAL CHURCH CHOIR
(Conductor: Miss FRANCES G. ALEXANDER, A.T.C.L.).
Also Mr. R. N. GRACEY (Bass).
THE ASHLEIGH SINGERS.
Special Offering for Building Fund.
All welcome.

DUNCAIRN GARDENS METHODIST CHURCH

11-30 and 7.
CHRISTMAS SERVICES
Preacher:
Rev. J. WESLEY M'KINNEY.
You are Heartily Invited.

LISBURN ROAD METHODIST CHURCH.

SUNDAY, 25th.
11-30—Rev. JOHN FLEMING.
7—THE CAROL SERVICE.
Soloist, Miss Geraldine Costigan.
Address by the Rev. JOHN FLEMING.
Visitors made welcome.

AGNES STREET METHODIST CHURCH.
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES
11-30 a.m.—Rev. ALBERT HOLLAND.
CAROLS BY JUNIOR CHOIR.
7 p.m.—Rev. ALBERT HOLLAND.
Carols by Church Choir and Junior Trio.
Visitors cordially invited.

SHANKILL ROAD METHODIST CHURCH.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES
Rev. JOHN HART.
9 a.m.—SHORT SERVICE.
7 p.m.—CAROL SERVICE.
Soloist, Miss Eva Cinnamond.

JENNYMOUNT METHODIST CHURCH.
11-30 and 7 p.m.—Rev. W. J. CARSON.
3 o'clock—
SUNDAY SCHOOL PRAISE SERVICE
(Friends invited).
7 p.m.—CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE.
You are invited to.
Spend Christmas praising God.

CREGAGH METHODIST CHURCH.
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES.
8 a.m., 11-30 a.m., and 7 p.m.
Preacher: Rev. J. B. JENNINGS.
Evening Subject:
"THE MESSAGE OF THE INCARNATION."
Special Christmas Music.
Soloist: Miss MAISIE M'MINN.
All welcome.

LYNN MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH.
CHRISTMAS SUNDAY SERVICES
8-0 a.m., 11-30, 7 p.m.
[illegible]s from Handel's Messiah at Evening Service.
Soloists: Miss Jean Simpson, soprano; Miss Hilda Park, contralto; Mr. George Simpson, tenor; Mr. Jim Shaw, bass.
At the Organ—Miss Frances A. Alexander, A.T.C.L. Visitors Heartily Welcome.

NEWTOWNARDS RD. METHODIST CHURCH.
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES.
Mr. MALCOLM M. REDMAN.
7 a.m. and 11-30 a.m.
CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE—7 p.m.
Carols by Senior and two Children's Choirs. Mixed Quartet, etc. Retiring Collection for Christmas Parcel Fund. N.B.—Watch-night Service, Dec. 31st, 11 p.m.

ORMEAU ROAD CHURCH.
CHRISTMAS SERVICE at 8 a.m.
11-30—Rev. A. W. GAMBLE.
7-0—Rev. C. H. CROOKSHANK.

GROSVENOR HALL

11-30—Rev. A. R. BOOTH, B.A., LL.B.
3-30—
CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE
THE MISSES HEMPHILL.
SHAFTESBURY SINGERS.
HALL CHOIR.
Organ: Dr. W. J. BREAKEY, L.R.A.M.
7-0—Rev. JOHN N. SPENCE.
CHRISTMAS HYMNS and CAROLS.

NORTH BELFAST MISSION,

PEOPLE'S HALL.
11-30 a.m.—
Rev. JOHN W. STUTT.
7-0 p.m.—
Rev. N. E. MULLIGAN.
Carols, Anthems, and "Messiah" Music by the Choir.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES.

Albertbridge—11-30 and 7, Rev. R. R. WORKMAN.
Bloomfield Ave.—11-30, Rev. JAMES GRAY; 7, Special Christmas Praise Service.
Cliftonpark Ave.—11-30 and 7, Rev. W. J. TODD.
Connsbrook Ave.—11-30, Rev. H. M'ILWAINE.
Donegall St.—11-30 and 7, Rev. A. CAIRNS, M.A., Ph.D.
John White Memorial, Tennent St.—11-30 and 7, Rev. J. S. FINLAY, M.A.
Mervue Hall—3-30 Mr. G. ALEXANDER; 7, Rev. A. T. M'EVOY.
Rugby Ave.—11-30, Rev. F. THOMPSON, B.A. 7 o'c., Cantata: "Story of Bethlehem," by Church Choir.
Spamount (North Queen St.)—11-30 and 7, Rev W. J. DAVEY.
Whiteabbey—12 and 6-30, Rev. J. M'KANE.
Carrickfergus—11-30 and 7, Rev. G. BEMBRIDGE, B.A., B.D.

ALBERTBRIDGE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.
11-30 a.m.—Rev. R. RAINEY WORKMAN.
7 p.m.—PRAISE SERVICE.
Christmas Carols will be rendered by Members of the Junior Choir, under the leadership of Miss Hildred Francey). ADDRESS by Rev. R. RAINEY WORKMAN. Visitors cordially invited.
The Men's Bible Class will hold a Praise Service in the Lecture Hall at 10-30 a.m. Members and Friends cordially invited.
MEN'S BROTHERHOOD.—Praise Service in the Church at 3-30 p.m. Special Music by the Church Choir (Organist, Mr. S. BELL). Members and Friends cordially invited.

DONEGALL ST. CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

11-30 and 7:
REV. A. CAIRNS, M.A., Ph.D.
Christmas Hymns and Carols.
All Welcome.

CREGAGH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.
11-30 a.m.—Ravenhill United Male Choir.
7-0 p.m.—Mr. NORMAN F. W. M'PHERSON.
Soloist: Mr. J. Caldwell.
A cordial invitation extended to all.

SHILOH HALL,
ROTTERDAM STREET (QUEEN'S BRIDGE).
A CONFERENCE will be held TUESDAY, 27th December (D.V.), for Ministry of the Word of God, commencing 11-30 a.m., and continuing till 6 p.m.
The Gospel of the Grace of God is preached in the above Hall every Lord's Day at 7 p.m. All are cordially invited to these Meetings.

EMMANUEL MISSION,
Wellwood Street, Sandy Row.
BIBLE CLASS, 10 a.m.; Sunday School, 3 p.m.; Christmas Service, 7 p.m., with Christmas Music. Speaker: Mr. J. E. TETLEY. Soloist: Mr. H. M'Giffin. Mr. A. F. Downham.

CREGAGH MISSION HALL (Bus Terminus).
SUNDAY at 7 o'clock, Gospel Address by Mr. MINNIS MILLS. A hearty invitation is given to all.

CASTLEREAGH ROAD MISSION.
11-30 a.m.—Mr. J. BAILIE.
7-0 p.m.—Rev. H. H. MURPHY.
No Conference Meeting, Mon., 26th Dec., 1938.

CHURCH SERVICES.

ULSTER TEMPLE, RAVENHILL ROAD.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONVENTION

SPECIAL VISIT OF PRINCIPAL GEORGE JEFFREYS AND REVIVAL PARTY

SPEAKERS include Pastor E. J. PHILLIPS and Pastor W. G. HATHAWAY. Services, CHRISTMAS DAY—11-30, 3-30 and 7-0; BOXING DAY, 11-30, 3-30 and 7-0 (Baptismal Service); TUESDAY, 11-30, 3-30 and 7-0; WEDNESDAY, 8-0; THURSDAY, 8-0.
SERVICES AT FOURSQUARE GOSPEL CHURCHES ON CHRISTMAS DAY—
ELIM TABERNACLE, Melbourne St., 11-30 and 7-0. Special Speaker.
ELIM TABERNACLE, Ballysillan, 11-30 and 7-0. Pastor J. J. NORRIS.
ELIM TABERNACLE, Saunders St., 11-30 and 7-0. Pastor G. WRIGHT.
ELIM TABERNACLE, Beersbridge Rd., 11-30 and 7-0. Pastor G. BELL.
ELIM TABERNACLE, Hunter St., 11-30 and 7-0. Special Speaker.

WORTH NOTING

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND—DISTRICT PRESBYTERY.

FULL GOSPEL ASSEMBLY, HOPETON STREET, SHANKILL ROAD; 29th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONVENTION MEETINGS, SUNDAY and MONDAY, 11-30, 3-30 and 7 p.m; TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, 3-30 and 7. Speakers—Pastor E. CREWE (Bury), Pastor A. ATKINSON (Folkstone).
ADDRESSES BURNING WITH REVIVAL ZEAL.

OLDPARK ROAD HOLINESS MOVEMENT CHURCH

(Three Minutes' Walk from Agnes Street Stage).
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME.

CHRISTMAS DAY, 11-30, 3-30 and 7 o'clock; BOXING DAY, 3-30 and 7 o'clock; TUESDAY, 27th Dec., 11-30, 3-30 and 7 o'clock; 28th, 29th and 30th Dec., at 8 p.m. Speakers—Miss BERYL DEVINE, Young Australian Evangelist and Founder of The World For Christ Crusade (first visit to Ireland); and Rev. J. D. LEWIS, Paisley.
SPECIAL SINGING. EVERYBODY WELCOME.
N.B.—Emmanuel Trekking Party, January 1st, at 7 o'clock.

ANNUAL
MEETING OF CHRISTIANS
will (D.V.) be held in
Gospel Hall, East Wall, Londonderry
On TUESDAY, 27th DECEMBER, 1938,
commencing at 11-30 a.m.
Refreshments at Intervals.
Gospel Hymn Books used.
ALL CHRISTIANS HEARTILY INVITED.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, 1938.
ANNUAL

MEETINGS OF BELIEVERS

WILL (D.V.) be held in the Y.M.C.A. LARGE HALL, WELLINGTON PLACE, Belfast.

TUESDAY, 27th DECEMBER.
Thanksgiving, Confession and Prayer, 11-30 till 12-45. Refreshment, 1 o'clock. Ministry of the Word, 2 till 4-45. Refreshment, 5 o'clock. Ministry of the Word, 6 till 8-30.

WEDNESDAY, 28th DECEMBER.
Ministry of the Word, 3 till 5. Ministry of the Word, 7-30.

The following Speakers have been invited to take part: Mr. D. CRAIG, Ballymena; Mr. W. GILMORE, Bangor; Mr. E. H. GRANT, Hamilton; Mr. J. R. ROLLO, Kirkcaldy; Mr. T. G. SMITH, London; Mr. H. STEEDMAN, Sutton Coldfield, and others.

All Christians heartily invited. Hymn Sheets provided.

VICTORIA MEMORIAL HALL,

MAY STREET.
MR. M. BENTLEY
(EVANGELIST)
WILL (D.V.) PREACH THE GOSPEL
On LORD'S DAY at 7 p.m.
All heartily invited.

OLDPARK GOSPEL HALL

TORRENS AVENUE.
Mr. WILLIAM GILMORE (Bangor)
Will (D.V.) preach the Gospel on Lord's Day at 7 p.m.
Mr. HENRY STEEDMAN (England)
Will (D.V.) give the following Addresses:—
Thurs., Dec. 29, at 8 o'clock—"The Christian and the World."
Friday, Dec. 30, at 8 o'clock—"The Operations of the Holy Spirit."
Sat., Dec. 31, at 7-30 o'clock—"The Divine Inspiration of the Holy Scriptures."
Also at 10-30 p.m., "NEW YEAR'S EVE TESTIMONY MEETING," when ex-Members of the Royal Navy, Black Watch Regiment, and R.U.C. will give interesting accounts of their Conversion to God.

KINGSBRIDGE GOSPEL HALL.

MR. JOSEPH GLANCY
(A SAVED ROMAN CATHOLIC)
TO-MORROW EVENING
At 7 o'clock (D.V.)
Will make known how the Lord Jesus Christ can forgive sins, here and now.
ALL CLASSES AND CREEDS INVITED.

THE GOSPEL HALL, MALVERN STREET.

CHRISTMAS CONVENTION SERVICES.
SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY,
At 3-30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Each Day.
Visiting Speaker:
Mr. J. R. DAVISON.
All are welcome.

CREGAGH STREET GOSPEL HALL.
Mr. JOHN HUTCHINSON
(Banbridge)
WILL (D.V.) speak to Christians on Lord's Day at 4-15 p.m., and preach the Gospel at 7 o'clock. Also on MONDAY NIGHT, December 26th, a Meeting for the Ministry of the Word at 7 o'clock. Various Speakers. All heartily invited.

HOLBORN HALL, BANGOR.
GOSPEL SERVICE (D.V.) Lord's Day, 7 o'clock.
Speaker—Mr. T. BEA (Africa).
You are Cordially Invited.

APSLEY STREET HALL.
MR. W. HAGAN will (D.V.) speak to Christians on Lord's Day at 4-15, and preach the Gospel at 7 o'clock. Open-Air Meeting Shaftesbury Square at 8-20 p.m. All Welcome

BALLYHACKAMORE GOSPEL HALL.
Mr. BENTLEY and Mr. CRAIG
WILL (D.V.) speak to Believers on Lord's Day at 4 o'clock. Mr. CRAIG will preach the Gospel at 7 p.m. All heartily invited.

EBENEZER GOSPEL HALL, OLDPARK RD.
MR. T. STRONG and Mr. R. MAGOWAN will (D.V.) preach the Gospel on Lord's Day at 7. Open-air Meeting To-night (Sat.), Gresham St., 9-15. See Next Week's Notice for Special Meeting on New Year's Eve.

EBENEZER GOSPEL HALL,
Church Street, Bangor.
MR. FRANK KNOX will (D.V.) preach the Gospel on Lord's Day at 7 p.m., also in Conlig hall at 4 p.m. All heartily invited.

MATCHETT STREET HALL.
Mr. R. CRAIG and Mr. H. EADIE
WILL (D.V.) preach the Gospel To-morrow (Lord's Day) at 7 p.m.
A hearty invitation given to all.

MARANATHA Gospel Hall, Watson Street.—Mr. Robert Hawthorn will (D.V.) preach the Gospel on Lord's Day at 7 o'clock. Everybody heartily invited. Come.

FINAGHY KINDERGARTEN SCHOOL.
GOSPEL Service, Lord's Day (D.V.), 7 o'clock. Speaker—Mr. E. E. RANKIN. No Meeting on Tuesday next.

CENTRAL HALL, BANGOR.
MR. T. CAMPBELL (Evangelist) will (D.V.) preach the Gospel on Lord's Day at 7 p.m. Everybody welcome.

DONEGALL ROAD GOSPEL HALL.
MR. ALLEN (London) and Mr. THOMAS GRAHAM will (God Willing) preach the Gospel on Lord's Day at 7. Everyone welcome.

285a NEWTOWNARDS GOSPEL HALL.
MESSRS. PIGOTT and WALKER will (D.V.) preach the Gospel on Lord's Day at 7 p.m. All heartily invited.

BLOOMFIELD GOSPEL HALL, Woodcot Ave.
MESSRS. S. ROBERTS and W. CAMPBELL will (D.V.) preach the Gospel on Lord's Day. All welcome.

GLENGORMLEY GOSPEL HALL.
THE GOSPEL will (D.V.) be preached in above Hall on Lord's Day at 7 by Mr. HAWTHORNE BAILIE. All welcome.

ALBERTBRIDGE ROAD GOSPEL HALL.
MESSRS. J. A. M'NEILL and J. TURNER will (D.V.) preach the Gospel on Lord's Day at 7 o'clock. All welcome.

ORMEAU GOSPEL HALL.
MR. E. B. BROMLEY (India), will (D.V.) preach the Gospel on Lord's Day at 7 p.m. Everybody Welcome.

WINDSOR GOSPEL HALL.
MR. ROBERT LOVE will (D.V.) preach the Gospel on Lord's Day at 7 p.m. A hearty invitation given you.

CHRISTADELPHIAN HALL.

109 DONEGALL STREET.
FREE BIBLE ADDRESS EVERY SUNDAY at 7 p.m.
Subject for To-morrow:
"Jesus—God's Supreme Revelation to Man."

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

35 ROSEMARY STREET.
11-30 o'clock—
REV. J. SHAW BROWN
(Clough).
Church Closed. No Evening Service.

ALL SOULS' CHURCH, ELMWOOD AVE.
11-30—Rev. H. PAYNE.
Collection in Aid of Jewish Refugees.
7—CHURCH CLOSED.

YORK STREET N.S. PRES. CHURCH.
11-30 and 7—Rev. Dr. A. L. AGNEW.
4—Fellowship. Mr. W. J. SMITH.
"Some Aspects of Hitlerism."
Special Music at Evening Service.
Social Hour as usual.

CITY Y.M.C.A.

NO FELLOWSHIP TO-NIGHT.
DON'T MISS WATCHNIGHT FELLOWSHIP NEXT SATURDAY, 10-45 p.m.
NO AFTERNOON SERVICE ON CHRISTMAS DAY at 3-30 o'clock.

MOUNTPOTTINGER Y.M.C.A.

3-30—CHRISTMAS PRAISE SERVICE.
Miss LILY HAMILTON,
WESTBOURNE MALE QUARTET,
And THE CHOIR.
SATURDAY, 8—Mr. H. BENSON.
Guitar Trio.

IRON MISSION HALL

TEMPLEMORE AVENUE.
SPECIAL MEETINGS DURING XMAS WEEK.
Speaker: Pastor T. EVANS (Late of India).
SUNDAY, 25th, 11-30 a.m. and 7 p.m.—Subject, "Birth of Christ." Monday, 26th, 8 p.m.—Lantern Lecture, "Untouchables of India." Tuesday, 27th, 8 p.m.—Children's Social. Wednesday, 28th, 8 p.m.—"Hindu Widows." Thursday, 29th, 8 p.m.—"Hilly Tribes of India." Friday, 30th, 8 p.m.—Chart on "Revelation." Soloist: Griff George, assisted by the Belfast Accordion Band.

PEOPLE'S PALACE MISSION.

MR. A. IRWIN, J.P.
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC.

RAILWAY MISSION

3-30—Mr. GEO. BRADSHAW.
7—Miss HOUSTON'S TESTIMONY BAND.

CHRISTIAN WORKERS' UNION,

80 OLDPARK ROAD.
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CONFERENCE.
TO-NIGHT at 8, Mr. D. L. JENKINSON.
SUNDAY at 8-30, Mr. J. E. TETLEY.
MONDAY at 7-30, Mr. GEO. GIBSON (Crossgar).
Special Christmas Music by North Belfast C.W.U. Choir at all Services.

BRITISH-ISRAEL WORLD FEDERATION LECTURE

Entitled:
"YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS."
By Mr. JOHN HOLLAND.
Y.W.C.A.,
THURSDAY EVENING, 29th inst., at 8.
Everybody welcome.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

EVANGELIST SAM BROWN

(Unattached).

HAVING had thirteen years' experience of Missionary Work, during which I have occupied many Pulpits and Platforms in various Churches in the North and South of Ireland, also London, I shall be free to conduct Missions or take a Service, or, by Special Request, "My Life Story," from 1st January, 1939.

P.S.—All communications addressed to 161 Crumlin Road, Belfast.

THE SALVATION ARMY,
DUBLIN ROAD CITADEL.
UNIQUE CAROL SERVICE To-morrow Night at 7 o'clock, items, excerpts from the "Messiah" by Band Songsters, Vocalists and Xylophone. Admission free. Boxing Day, 7 o'clock, Tea and Social; tickets 1s.

THE SWANS' PLEA.

OUR BED IS VERY COLD THESE DAYS.

PLEASE REMEMBER US.

BREAD SCRAPS APPRECIATED.

Sir,—May we, the swans on the Lagan near to the Ormeau Bridge, appeal through your columns to the residents living near to the river to remember us at this time. Our bed is very cold these days, but we will not mind that so much if we can get something to eat. Some kind friends do keep scraps of bread and give them to us, but we need much more, please. May we ask all to do what they can for us at this festive season? Wishing all a very happy Christmas, we are—Yours, etc.

THE LAGAN SWANS.

MR. MACDERMOTT'S BILL.

Sir,—In your issue of December 20 you publish an extract of a Bill which Mr. MacDermott, K.C., has advocated. This bill it passed will not allow any person the right of insuring his or her parents or relatives without their written permission. I am sure there are hundreds of cases where this type of insurance has been a means of salvation to many people of the poorer class who could not make the necessary provision otherwise. Surely Mr. MacDermott is going too far in curtailing the right of the working class. Perhaps he is also introducing a measure which will compensate the loss which will be incurred or are we drifting in our democratic ideas of freedom. Hoping the Government will realise how drastic this measure is and pause before proceeding with it.—Yours, etc., FAIR PLAY.

TANGIBLE PROOF CONSOLING.

Sir,—The Rev. L. B. Ashby, in raising the question of life after death, touches a much discussed subject. Tangible proof would be very consoling and, it is just possible, may yet be attainable. The statement by Mr. James V. Barker, "To die is not to live," seems contrary to the general trend of Bible teaching. It may apply to the physical part of man, but not the spiritual. Man is a spirit, being made in the likeness of the Creator, otherwise how could he comprehend the spiritual things revealed in the Scriptures. The Scriptures also reveal life after death, for St. Paul tells us "we are come to the spirits of just men made perfect," and in Revelation, chapter xxii., St. John, when about to bow down to an angel, was told, "Do it not, for I am thy fellowservant and of thy brethren the prophets."

Thanks for Rev. Mr. Ashby's statement, "If man is anything at all he is first and foremost spirit, and if matter and energy, the servants of man, are indestructible, shall the master be destroyed." It is unthinkable.—Yours, etc.,

ANDREW CUNNINGHAM.
Ballyclare.

ROUND OF CINEMAS.

GENERAL PICTURE SURVEY.

ROYAL CINEMA.

A revival programme will be presented at the Royal Cinema next week, when Edward G. Robinson and Mary Astor will be seen in "Man With Two Faces," the screen adaption of the stage murder mystery melodrama, "Dark Tower." The other revival is "Bureau of Missing Persons," a comedy drama full of fast action and broad humour, and starring Bette Davis and Lewis Stone.

CLASSIC CINEMA.

Robert Louis Stevenson's "Kidnapped" comes in picture form to the Classic next week, with Warner Baxter as Alan Breck, fugitive Highland clansman, and Freddie Bartholomew as David Balfour, the boy hero of the tale. Liberties are taken with the book to add romantic interest by introducing Arleen Whelan as Breck's sweetheart. The second feature will be "Mr. Moto's Gamble," the latest in a famous series, with Peter Lorre heading the cast.

RITZ THEATRE.

Those who remember Douglas Fairbanks, senior, in "Robin Hood," when that great actor was at the peak of his success, will be particularly interested in the holiday offering at the Ritz, which is the new technicolour version of the film, with Errol Flynn in the title role, Olivia De Havilland as Maid Marion, Claude Rains as Prince John, Ian Hunter as King Richard, Eugene Pallette as Friar Tuck, and Allan Hale as Little John. Joseph Seal will present his usual popular interlude.

BELFAST HIPPODROME.

The Hippodrome, famous for popular picture shows, is going into pantomime for the holidays, and Mr. Prince Littler is presenting an all-comedy version of "Cinderella." Surely an attractive choice. Margaret Morgan is Prince Charming, and Josephine Trix is Cinderella, while Connie Graham and Hal Scott are the ugly sisters. The big supporting cast is equally well filled, and the show will be put on with a wealth of scenery and effects.

CURZON PICTURE HOUSE.

There will be two double feature programmes at the Curzon next week. Gracie Fields leads off on Monday in "Love, Life, and Laughter," one of her most successful films, and Tex Ritter sings and thrills in "Sing, Cowboy Sing," in supports. At the week-end, the principal attractions will be Paul Robeson in "King Solomon's Mines," and Noah Beery, jun., in "Some Blondes are Dangerous."

CRUMLIN PICTURE HOUSE.

At the Crumlin Picture House on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday the principal holiday feature will be the strange mystery drama "The Invisible Menace," starring Boris Karloff. It follows closely the American stage play "Without Warning," and is said to be even more successful as an entertainment. On Thursday, Charles Quigley and Rita Hayworth star in "The Circus Shadow," a drama of circus life, introducing all the thrills of a "big top" entertainment.

BELFAST EMPIRE.

The pantomime at the Empire this year is "Robinson Crusoe," presented by Peter Davis, and it will run a fortnight with matinees (half price for children) on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday of next week. The title is played by Judy Jaxon and Stella Peters is "Stella Crusoe." There will be numerous specialities. The house is booked out for Monday and Tuesday.

THE BELFAST PLAYHOUSE.

"CHARLEY'S AUNT" NEXT WEEK.

Mr. Norway at the Playhouse in Bedford Street could not have made a happier choice for the holidays than "Charley's Aunt" for as an entertainment it ranks high, and in the estimation of competent critics is funnier than many pantomimes. The cast is an interesting one and will include several new faces. Jack Foster comes to the Playhouse with the best of credentials, having done a large amount of repertory work in England. Dennis Franks, another newcomer, has long been recognised as a leading repertory artist across the water. Of the Playhouse cast Hermione Gray will make a welcome reappearance after her holiday. Patricia Stewart and Muriel North, Kenneth Thomas, Jack Lewis, Peter Mayes, etc., with Harald Norway himself in the famous part of Lord Fancourt Babberley.

The part of Lord Babs is one in which Mr. Norway will revel. Among light comedians he holds a foremost place and his performance of the Oxford undergraduate who dons the petticoats will be something to be remembered.

The booking office is open daily from 11 till 7, and as there is sure to be a big demand for seats during the holidays early application is advisable to avoid disappointment.

ON HONEYMOON TRIP

CAR OVERTURNS IN SNOW.

SURREY BRIDE INJURED.

While on a honeymoon trip to Truro (Cornwall) on Friday evening, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. E. Weston, of Willow Hayne Gardens, Worcester Park, Surrey, were involved in a motor-car accident at Winterslow, near Salisbury.

Mrs. Weston is now in hospital with head and shoulder injuries.

At a point where one-way traffic was in operation because of snow-drifts, Mr. Weston's car skidded up a bank and overturned.

Mrs. Weston was taken to hospital, and Mr. Weston, who managed to right his car, is staying at a Salisbury hotel so that he may visit his bride.

"THE BOOK OF ADAM."

Sir,—Your correspondent "J.C.R." gives a lengthy explanation about life after death. His reference to the first man, Adam, is in accordance with the teaching of popular religion. I would like to point out that Adam is referred to in Genesis 5, 2, in the plural number, which reads, "This is the Book of the generation of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him; male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam in the day when they (not he) were created." From the reading of Genesis 5, 2, and Genesis 1, 26-27, we conclude that Adam is not an individual man as many think, but the man Adam applies to a class of people taken out of the human family of low nature, type of the dust, or ground. This class called Adam were formed in the image and likeness of God. They were regenerated.

This people called Adam which God formed for Himself, afterwards became known as natural Israel—Isaiah 43, 20-21, Isaiah 43, 1. In the Scriptures women typify covenants and covenants woman. Eve stands for the law covenant. Moses being a member of Adam's Body constituted the rib which made the woman —the law covenant. "The law was given by Moses." Natural Israel were nationally alive for 930 years. Then they died nationally. The 70 years in Babylon completed the day in which they sinned. "One day is with the Lord a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." God formed these people which were first called Adam, being the first of God's creations, from their low nature. Thus they came forth from the ground. When they sinned they returned to the ground, went back to their low nature out of which they were taken. "The Lord . . . He hath thrown down in His wrath the strongholds of the daughter of Judah, He hath brought them down to the ground" (Lamentations 2, 2).—Yours, etc.,

JAMES BELL.

OPERA HOUSE PANTO

OPENING PERFORMANCE TO-NIGHT

"BABES IN THE WOOD."

THE DRESS REHEARSAL.

Young and old can look forward with every confidence to an enjoyable feast at the "Babes in the Wood" pantomime, the first performance of which will be given to-night in the Belfast Opera House. This is one of the most enchanting of the many nursery tales that have been adopted for Yuletide entertainment. It tells of Robin Hood, the prince of outlaws, who with his merry men occupied the forest of Sherwood, and relieved the rich in order to appease the needs of the poor; of the bad baron who wanted to get rid of the babes in order to inherit their money; of the two rascals whom he bribed to carry out his nefarious plans; and of the many chivalrous and romantic happenings which followed.

In addition to the magic sylvan perspective of the Sherwood dell and the other scenes provided to illustrate the story there are outstanding features, notably that of the "Palace of Dreams" in which the final stages of the show are enacted.

At last night's rehearsal the crowd, so essential for an adequate atmosphere, was missed, but the members of the Press and the few others invited to watch the try-out were favourably impressed. Two suggestions will not be out of place. The slapstick comedy in the wall-papering scene must be gingered up and the schoolhouse burlesque improved. On Friday night they lacked pep but much can be made of them. Otherwise there was nothing to cavil at and much to enthuse over and admire.

ROBIN AND MAID MARIAN.

The panto opened in a bright and merry turn and the ensembles were beautifully planned and executed. Hannah Watt, otherwise Robin Hood (the outlawed Earl of Huntingdon), was ideal in the role. She has a fine dashing presence and a voice of robust charm, which is much appreciated in many numbers. Two of her most successful were "Merrily we roll along" and "Down and out Blues." The theme centres around a girl who was once a pal and it has that ingratiating rhythm which audiences like.

Bobbie Cooper looks lovely as Maid Marian and her contribution to the success of the performance is indispensable. She has the gift of artless artistry and her songs are rendered as naturally as anything could be. She was applauded greatly for "You couldn't be sweeter" and "In a little toy sailboat." She also dances gracefully.

Richard Hassett as Dame Trott, the village schoolmistress, was always amusing. He never failed to get the right angle and his acting was greatly enjoyed. He scored with "Under the chestnut tree" and this should prove a big hit.

The Baron's place was well taken by Norman Bowyer, who was as bad as bad could be and only relented when his wicked designs were frustrated by the hero of the story.

The Egbert brothers, the knockabout comedians of the panto, put any amount of vim into their drolleries and they will be favourites.

Sheila Brodie as the Fairy looked bewitching in her robe of white and elfin crown.

A special word of praise must be given to the Babes, personated by Renee Kiff and Lilian Raymond.

Prominent in the cast also was Nell Crighton, the friend of the outlaw.

WEE GEORGIE WOOD.

We have reserved for the last the greatest of all the characters—Wee Georgie Wood, who plays the part of the mischievous Johnny Green, a "lad" in every sense of the word. It is needless to enlarge on the acting gifts of this notable star of the vaudeville stage. Suffice to say that he brings the same resource and distinction to the part as he has done to the comedy creations for which he is so famous.

Special features include the Revels of the Butterflies, with Valerie Wainwright as solo dancer. This is a spectacle to be talked about for its poetic and moving charm.

Bernard Steele and Sheila Brodie, exponents of Scottish folk songs, captivated all before the footlights by their vital personalities and the expression with which they imbued all their songs. This will be a most popular act.

Specialities are also given by the Eight-Step Sisters, the Six Corrigan Kiddies, Nell Crighton, Georgie Wood, and the Egbert Brothers.

The entire pantomime is produced under the direction of Fred Tripp with dances and ensembles by that experienced ballet mistress, Bettina Merson. The orchestra and full London chorus is under the direction of Mr. Dudley Hare.

RAVISHING ATTIRE

WORN BY THE PRINCIPALS.

GORGEOUSLY CLAD OUTLAWS.

From the opening chorus, when Robin Hood and his outlaws appeared in their colourful green and tan, to the climax —the Palace of Dreams—the stage settings were a fitting complement for the lovely costumes that were worn in the show.

Bobbie Cooper, as Maid Marion, wore frocks that if copied for evening wear would make any girl the belle of the ball. She made her first appearance in a demure gown of hyacinth blue taffeta with huge puffed sleeves of white organdie. The wide skirt was banded with clover velvet, and the same colour note was introduced on the Victorian bonnet which she wore in a later scene. A Dubarry gown of powder blue satin over flower sprigged muslin was effectively trimmed with palest pink velvet ribbon, but perhaps her loveliest gown was that which she wore at the Baron's reception. It was of orchid pink poult worn over ivory silk lace. In the same scene the frocks worn by the chorus made a bright splash of colour. They were brocaded in Dubarry style and such colour combinations as petunia and mauve, blue and gold, coral and apple green, moss green and primrose should give inspiration to the girl who is thinking of buying an evening frock.

It would be impossible to describe fully the gorgeous costumes worn by Hannah Watt as Robin Hood. A mauve brocaded tunic, a fichu and cuffs of exquisite lace in which diamonds sparkled, black satin tights, and a velour tricorne hat with a sweeping black ostrich feather completed a striking outfit, but even this was surpassed by her costume in the final scene. It was simply regal. A black velvet tunic and tights sparkling with diamante were worn under a flowing cloak of black velvet lined with scarlet satin. Her hat had a cockade of red and white ostrich feathers. In this scene Maid Marion was bewitching in a full-length gown of ivory ninon fashioned with a full skirt. She wore a cape of white ostrich feathers, and her veil of ivory lace was surmounted by a wreath of bridal blossoms.

Yards and yards of material were in the skirts of the white heavy silk frocks worn by the Eight Step Sisters, and as they whirled to and fro with the stage lights changing continually the wide skirts were shown with great effect.

Nell Crighton, in the role of Will Scarlett, wore a distinctive little suit when she gave solo numbers. The tunic was of apple green chiffon velvet, and worn over a checked taffeta knife pleated skirt. A smart velvet Glengarry which boasted two feathers (green and flame) might be copied to advantage for afternoon wear.

An irresistible little frock worn by Mary (one of the babes) was in primrose taffeta with sequin embroideries of true lovers' knots, and sashed with nile green velvet. And so another season's show opens at the Opera House with costumes as lovely as ever in the traditional pantomime style.

EUROPEAN TANGLE.

THE BROKEN ITALO-FRENCH PACT.

ROME OFFICIAL NOTE

SENT TO AMBASSADOR.

ROME, Friday.—An official communique states—

"In a letter addressed to the French Ambassador, M. Francois Poncet, on December 17 last, the Italian Government declared that it did not consider the Italo-French Agreements of January 7, 1935, as being in force."—Reuter.

SURPRISE IN FRANCE.

Concerning Rome's denouncement of the Franco-Italian Agreement of 1935, French Government quarters express considerable surprise that this attitude should have been adopted by Italy (wires the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" Paris correspondent).

It is stated that the whole purpose of the 1935 Agreement was to rectify in favour of Italy those clauses of the Pact of London signed in 1915, from which Italy had not derived the promised advantages.

When the 1935 Agreement was signed it was understood on the French side—and it is declared in Paris by Italy as well—that the chapter of Italian demands on France had been definitely closed.

On this account it is stated the recent attitude adopted by the Italian Government cannot be regarded as creating for France any obligation to put forward new offers.

ITALY RECALLS SANCTIONS.

ROME, Friday. — Commenting on Italy's repudiation of the 1935 Mussolini-Laval Agreements, the "Giornale d'Italia" publishes the following authoritative note:-

"This announcement is sufficient to act as a definite clearing of the ground in political relations between Rome and Paris, and to sweep aside France's noisy but superfluous polemics.

"The French Government is exclusively responsible for the situation, in that it has voluntarily neglected to fulfil all those diplomatic and juridical acts which at its own request were necessary to put the 1935 agreements into effect, and has also violated by its adhesion to sanctions—that is to say, by a manifest act of war—the letter and the spirit of these agreements which besides being founded on the presumption of friendly collaboration obliged France to recognise Italy's free hand in Abyssinia.

"If, therefore the Franco-Italian Agreements of 1935 were never put into effect, and are to be considered non-existent, it is evident that everything remains to be done over again as regards relations between Italy and France.

"Meanwhile the Italian Government is right in setting before France problems and claims which she will formulate in due course according to the proper form."—Reuter.

HITLER AS "PRINCE OF PEACE."

XMAS A NAZI FESTIVAL.

OLD HYMNS FROWNED ON.

BERLIN, Friday.—Efforts to substitute a Nazi festival for a Christmas have been much in evidence this year.

The Nazi Teachers' League has been ordered to leave the religious angle to the Churches and to concentrate on the national aspect of the holiday.

Hitler is the new Prince of Peace. The Nazi Party Press service says:—"When we look round at the war, hate, and unrest in other lands we can judge with what joyous hearts we can enjoy the Christmas peace which the Fuhrer and his work have spread over our people."

The old Christmas hymns are frowned upon and a new set of folk songs has been evolved for what is called "the most German of all festivals."

In speeches and newspaper articles emphasis is being laid on ancient German customs and traditions reaching back to the old pagan days of the nation.

To-day is primarily a day for the children.

Field-Marshal Goering is to distribute presents to more than 100 children and their families from Schorfheide, where his country home is situated.

Over 100,000 Christmas trees and 300,000 big packets of foodstuffs are to be given to needy Berlin families.—Reuter.

"WE WANT TO STAY BRITISH,"

SAY TANGANYIKA NATIVES.

SUGGEST INCLUSION IN EMPIRE.

The Governor of Tanganyika (Sir Mark Young) has received a letter signed by leading members of the Native Civil Service, who profess loyalty to the Empire and ask that the territory should be converted from a mandate to a British colony.

All the natives remember Tanganyika when it was a German colony.

The letter asked that his Majesty will not relinquish the trusteeship, which he has assumed, for a young and backward race.

"We have learned, with warm appreciation and gratitude, the meaning of the word freedom in the establishment of indirect rule, where our own natural chiefs and leaders have been restored to their authority," the natives affirm.

The letter pays tribute to the educational facilities, the justice of the courts and the help given to agriculture and animal husbandry.

It concludes:—"We have seen slavery completely disappear and forced labour also. We do not believe in the feeling held by some among us that Britain is afraid, and in her cowardice will yield up the trusteeship which she accepted with such generosity and out of pity for us helpless people.

"Finally we humbly beg that we may become a colony of the British Empire, and become one with our neighbours, Kenya, Uganda, Nyasaland and Northern Rhodesia, so that we may be secure in the knowledge that our father, his gracious Majesty, will continue to rule over us."

MR. PIROW HOME.

CAPETOWN, Friday. — Mr. Oswald Pirow, Union Minister of Defence, arrived in the Warwick Castle to-day from his two months trip to Europe.

He told journalists that he had nothing to add to his previous statements. "A silent Pirow," he added, "was more news than a voluble one."

Mr. Pirow said he would shortly call a Press conference in order to discuss the European position in the light of his recent experiences.

Mr. James Maxton, M.P., who was also on board the liner, told Reuter: "I don't see why the civilised world cannot accommodate 500,000 Jews. Even allowing for unemployment in England and America, these two countries can take their share."—Reuter.

DR. SCHACHT'S TRIP.

The proposals which appeared to have been advanced by Dr. Schacht on his visit to London must surely be among the most cynical ever advanced in connection with the Nazi persecution of the Jews, said Mr. Herbert Morrison in London on Thursday night.

"It appeared that the partially degraded Dr. Schacht was sent here to make some sort of a trade bargaining arrangement in return for us being graciously permitted to assist up to a point in remedying the results of persecution in Germany, which were contrary to our desires, and which were none of our seeking.

"I hope that Dr. Schacht has been sent about his business, and that it has been clearly intimated to him that any such proposal is not only cynical, but is impudent and offensive."

BRIGANDS OF VELD.

HAVOC OF THE BABOONS NEVER ENDS.

TROUBLESOME ANIMALS.

CAPE FARMERS' WORST ENEMY.

Kill a baboon in South Africa, cut off the tail as proof, and the Government will pay you from 2s 6d to 10s 6d. The highest rewards, of course, are paid in districts overrun by huge troops of baboons, which raid the orchards, steal the mealies (Indian corn), mutilate lambs and young goats, and carry off the chickens and poultry.

This havoc never ends (writes Lawrence G. Green in the "New York Times Magazine"). From the Equator south to the Cape the baboon outlaws survive in settled farming areas in countless thousands, always a menace in spite of merciless hunting.

Jackals and leopards take their toll of the flocks; but the widespread and indestructible baboon ranks as the South African farmer's greatest and most cunning enemy.

Guns and dogs, traps, prussic acid capsules, baited cages are used every day in the war on these brigands of the veld. The baboons are thinned out here and there, but never exterminated. A really effective method of defeating the wily baboon has not yet been found.

Unfortunately, baboon skins have no commercial value. Baboons cannot be hunted profitably for leather, like the wild ostriches of South-West Africa. Baboon skins have been tanned and used for boot "uppers," but, though they were admirable, the leather never lost its squeak. And the flesh is so bitter that only the poorest natives will eat it.

For ways that are mysterious and tricks that are cruel the baboon heads the list of troublesome animals. They attack the young of all the game animals and wipe out guinea fowl and partridge.

Not long ago an estimate of the ravages of baboons in the Transvaal mealie lands alone revealed a loss of £275,000 a year. Native farmers suffer most severely, for they have no firearms. In half an hour a large troop of baboons will clear a field of mealies, pumpkins, or melons, throwing many a cob aside after one bite.

The tragedy of the pest is that the baboon itself has few natural enemies left. Leopards do stalk sleeping baboons, but their appetites are not sufficiently hearty. And the leopard does not always win. A hunter in Rhodesia once watched a baboon troop surround a leopard. Commands were barked out, the circle grew smaller, and soon the leopard was torn to pieces.

As a rule the baboon is too clever to risk death by entering the abode of man. When a woman is about, however, baboons lose their fear and become insolent. Not long ago two baboons smashed up the nurses' home, which stands apart from the hospital, at Lobatsi, in Bechuanaland. The most spectacular invasion in recent years occurred at the little township of Maritzani. A troop of baboons 200 strong, driven by hunger from their mountain fastnesses, suddenly raided the outskirts of the railway settlement in daylight. Within a few minutes not a live fowl was left.

Only when men rushed to the spot with guns did the baboon army retreat, muttering and grunting angrily.

Early last year a lone rogue baboon nearly 5ft. in height broke into a church in the Northern Transvaal bushveld and ransacked the vestry. The same baboon killed four sheep one night on a farm in the district, ripped the door off a school and scattered the books, and broke many farmhouse windows.

It was tackled by a Great Dane on one of the farms. After a short fight the dog was killed. Farmers within a radius of 30 miles gathered in an effort to end the terror, but the baboon escaped.

Baboons fear snakes more than any other living creature. Their favourite item of food is the scorpion, and they tremble nervously as they turn over the stones in search of these poisonous insects. Otherwise the baboon is bold enough.

Troops of baboons are well organised and disciplined. Each troop, from 20 to 200 in number, hunts in an area recognised by other packs, and "poachers" are punished. Always there is a wise old male as leader. No one really knows the average life of a baboon, but 45 years is an authoritative estimate.

The baboon's sense of smell is poor, but it has first-class eyesight, and, obviously, greater intelligence than any other animal. They may be tamed as pets, up to a point, but they are inclined to be treacherous. Many tales of attacks and other escapades of pet baboons are told in South Africa.

A number of pet baboons are kept at Paarl, on the Cape of Good Hope, and have provided much excitement from time to time. A few years ago a pet baboon ran amuck in the main street, dashed into two churches, frightened several women, and was finally chased up the mountain and shot.

Many chained baboons are made vicious by teasing, bad feeding, and lack of exercise. They have been trained to serve as "watch dogs" and also as "voorlopers," leading teams of oxen.

Nevertheless, the owner of a pet baboon can never feel completely safe. The baboon, grotesque caricature of man himself, will never be the friend of man.

DANISH TRAFFIC SNOWBOUND.

SIX TRAINS HELD UP.

TEACHER FROZEN TO DEATH.

COPENHAGEN, Friday.—The continued snow and easterly storm is making Christmas traffic conditions in Denmark worse every hour. Last night a train with 100 passengers ran into a drift and was snow-bound for seven hours on the West Jutland line.

A relief train sent with special workers was also snow-bound, and when eventually the passenger train was released and managed to reach the nearest wayside station it was unable to proceed further, and at midday a string of no fewer than six trains were held up there.

This morning the Jutland express was delayed for two hours, and the Continental express for nearly three hours.

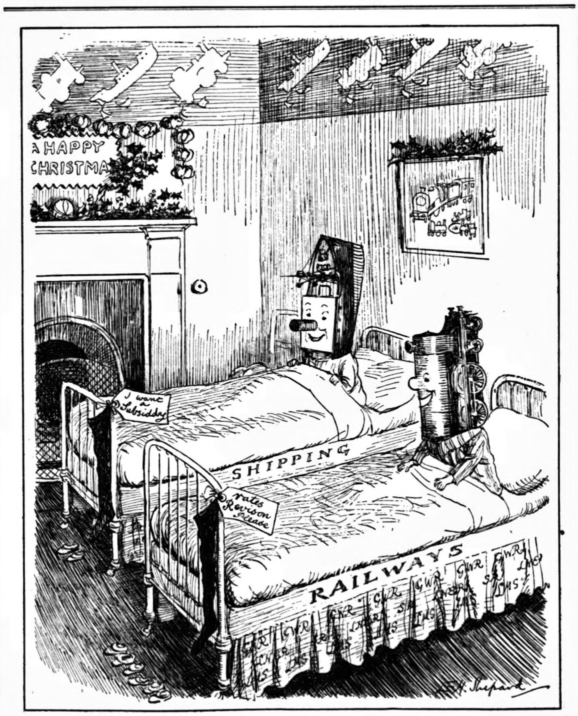
In many parts of the country regular traffic is quite out of the question in spite of the best efforts of the authorities. From all parts come reports of road traffic snow-bound throughout the night, in some cases ambulances with sick patients. A number of roads have been practically impassable for several days.

Late last night a middle-aged woman school-teacher who was going home to spend Christmas with her aged father left a snow-bound taxi on a wayside road in Jutland and started to walk the last few kilometres, carrying her bags one in each hand. Later first one bag and then the other were found discarded, and finally the teacher was discovered lying dead in a ditch.—Exchange.

THE VILLAGE OF CARRICK, SOUTH-WEST DONEGAL, NOTABLE FOR ITS FISHING.

THERE REALLY IS A SANTA CLAUS, AND IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT—WELL, HAVE A PEEP AT THE PARCELS OFFICE IN ENNISKILLEN P.O.

SANTA CLAUS HAS A BUSY TIME AND SO HAS THE POSTMAN. A PEEP INSIDE THE PARCELS OFFICE AT OMAGH.



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HERE'S HOPING !

BRITISH MARKETS.

NEWS FROM MANY CENTRES.

HOW PRICES RULED YESTERDAY.

CLYDE CRUSHED SUGAR (Official Report)—The market is very steady at unchanged values. London market closed until Wednesday.

BILLINGSGATE FISH—Trade slow with light supplies on offer and prices firm. Soles 1s 6d to 2s 4d, slips 1s 4d to 2s, red mullet 6d to 1s, lobsters 1s to 2s 6d—per lb.; turbot 6s to 18s, brill 9s to 12s, plaice 6s 6d to 12s 6d, halibut 7s to 16s, lemon soles 10s to 18s, cod 3s 6d to 6s, witches 7s to 16s, whiting 4s to 6s 6d, hake 7s to 10s 6d, flake dogfish 2s to 4s 6d, haddocks 3s 6d to 7s, skate wings 4s to 8s, roker wings 6s to 9s 6d; fresh herrings, English 2s to 3s 6d, Scotch 2s to 4s—per stone; live eels 8s to 28s, dead 5s to 18s per draught; bloaters 2s 6d to 5s, kippers 2s to 6s 6d—per box; oysters, natives, Whitstable, 32s to 46s, Pyefleet 37s to 65s, Dutch 15s to 40s—per 100; periwinkles, Irish 10s to 14s, Scotch 10s to 16s—per cwt.; shrimps 3s 6d per gallon.

FLEETWOOD FISH—Mackerel 28s, coalfish 12s, cod 50s, sprags 48s, codling 40s, conger 10s, dogfish 9s, gurnard 6s, haddock 52s, hake 108s, ling 19s, megrims 110s, monkfish 20s, roker 50s, skate 46s, whiting 52s—per ten stone; soles 33s, brill 12s, turbot 15s, halibut 16s—per stone.

GRIMSBY FISH—Fair supply and demand. Soles 2s, turbot 1s 6d, brill 1s 2d—per lb.; best plaice 9s to 11s, lemon soles 22s, whitings 7s, cod 5s 6d, codlings 4s, skate 8s, small haddocks 6s, medium 7s, gibbed 9s 6d, large dabs 14s, small 7s, dogfish 6s, hake 14s, roker 8s 6d—per stone.

LONDON CORN (Opening)—Trade quiet; prices steady. Wheat steadier; No. 1 Northern Manitoba Vancouver ex ship 28s 3d. Flour quiet; London straight run 23s for delivery Home Counties, 22s 6d Inner London area. Maize irregular; Plate landed 29s 3d. Barley dull; No. 3 Canadian Western Atlantic landed 23s 6d. Oats steady; No. 3 Canadian Western Atlantic landed 18s 9d.

Closing—Attendance small; trade slow. Wheat steadier, No. 2 Northern Manitoba (Vancouver) ex-ship 27s 3d. Flour quiet, London Straight Run 23s, Home Counties 22s 6d inner London, excluding 6s quota. Maize irregular, Plate landed 29s 3d. Barley quiet, Californian ex-store 37s to 45s. Oats maintained, No. 3 Canadian Western (Atlantic) landed 18s 9d.

LONDON PRODUCE—Sugar: spot steady, raws quiet, 96 per cent. January-February sellers 6s 3d, terminal slow, May sold 6s 2½d. Cocoa dull, terminal March sold 21s 9d. Rice inactive. Pepper easier, black Lampong March-May sold 2¾d. Jute firmer, firsts January-February sellers £19 7s 6d. Manila hemp quiet, African sisal steady. Shellac idle. Copra easier, Straits January sellers £10 12s 6d. Rubber steadier, sheet spot sold 8¼d. Linseed oil quiet, spot 25s 6d, January to August 22s 10½d. Turpentine firmer, American spot 33s 6d, January-April 34s. Linseed slow, Plate January £10 6s 3d, Calcutta ditto £12 11s 3d, Bombay £12 15s.

LONDON POTATO—Trade fair with arrivals light owing to the adverse weather. Lincoln King Edwards 5s to 5s 3d, kidneys 3s 9d to 4s, Cambridge King Edwards 5s. Loon Star also Majestic 3s 9d, Essex Ninetyfolds kidneys also Eclipse 3s 9d, Kent Ninetyfolds 3s 9d—per cwt.

LIVERPOOL CORN—Wheat firm. Flour firm; unchanged; Straight Run 21s ex-mill. Maize steady; American yellow 6s 1d, River Plate 6s 2d. Oats quiet; English white 5s 9d to 6s 3d. Oatmeal quiet. Barley lower; Russian 22s 3d to 22s 9d. Bran firm; thirds steady.

LIVERPOOL PRODUCE (First Report)—Cane sugar steady. Cocoa—West African spot and forward shipment positions quietly steady. Coffee quiet but firm on spot. Rice slow. Linseed quietly steady. Palm oil steady but quiet. Tallow quiet. Palm kernels quiet and steady. Rubber—Hard fine Para steady, 7¼d to 7½d spot and forward. Linseed oil steady and quiet. Resin quietly steady. Petroleum oil steady. Turpentine quietly steady. Ground nuts quietly steady.

Second Report.—Cane sugar steady. West African cocoa on spot and forward shipment quietly steady. Coffee quiet, but firmly held on spot. Rice steady. Linseed steady and quiet. Palm oil quietly steady; soft oils December-January to April-May £13 10s to £13 12s 6d transit, 2s 6d less ex-quay terms. Tallow quietly steady. Palm kernels quietly steady. Rubber—Hard fine Para spot steady at 7¼d to 7½d spot and forward; plantation steady but idle, buyers spot 8 1-16d, February-March 8¼d. Linseed oil quiet and steady. Resin quiet; American types on spot 15s 6d F. G. and H., 19s 9d W.W. Petroleum steady. Turpentine rather steadier; American on spot 35s 3d duty paid. Ground nuts steady and quiet. Lard—Boxes steady at 45s 6d to 47s 6d.

BIRKENHEAD CATTLE—There was a much smaller supply of cattle on offer, which met a better trade for all classes of bullocks and heifers at an advance on late rates. Cows and bulls were steady at about unchanged values. Choice small bullocks and heifers made up to 7½d, medium weights 6¾d to 7d, other classes around 6½d, young cows 5d, aged sorts 4d, young bulls 5½d, other classes 4d to 4½d. Lambs were a steady trade at 8½d to 9d—all prices per lb. sinking the offal. The week's supplies were 882 cattle, 2,340 lambs.

CLEVELAND IRON—While the market continues steady and optimistic in tone, business is virtually suspended and transactions promise to be confined to very narrow limits until after the holidays. Saleable tonnage of Cleveland pig light, but stocks of East hematite large and increasing. Demand early in the New Year is expected to more than absorb the output of both commodities. Makers and consumers of semi-finished iron and steel have little material stored and likely to negotiate on a rather extensive scale in the near future. Finished iron and steel producers need new contracts and confidently look for considerable buying movement next month. Deliveries of iron and steel scrap are virtually suspended until January.

DUBLIN CORN—The market is under holiday influence with few buyers for anything around previous terms—White oats 12s to 14s, black 10s 3d to 11s 3d, and wheat 27s 6d to 30s 6d per barrel according to quality.

GLASGOW CORN—Market steady; No. 1 Manitoba wheat 28s per 480 lbs. c.i.f. Glasgow for December shipment. Plate maize scarce on spot, 6s 9d per cwt., forward 6s 7½d. American corn 6s 6d per cwt. spot. Grinding barley firm, 6s 3d spot and forward. Home mill offals very steady; values generally about 2s 6d to 5s per ton dearer. First grade Australian flour nominal, 20s per 280 lbs. ex-store plus quota.

GLASGOW IRON AND STEEL.—Scrap metal—There is no further change to report in this section of the market.

BANNED REPUBLICAN PAPERS.

Bans on the following papers are announced for next year:—

"An Phoblacht" or "The Republic" or "The Loyalist" or "The Republican Press."

"The Irish World and American Industrial Liberator.

"Fianna."

"Republican Congress."

"An Siol or "The Seed," and

"Wolfe Tone Weekly Saiorse Na h'Eireann" or "Irish Freedom."

ADVICE TO BELFAST SNEAK THIEF.

KEEP HAND IN POCKET

WHEN GIVING EVIDENCE.

OTHERWISE IT REVEALS "TRADE."

"My advice to you if you ever come to the box to give evidence is keep your right hand in your pocket because it displays your trade. Obviously you are a pickpocket, and a very clever one judging by the way you manipulate your hands."

These remarks were addressed by Mr. J. H. Campbell, R.M., to William Nixon, alias M'Cubrey, of no fixed abode, who was charged with loitering to commit a felony at Royal Avenue on Wednesday and at Corn Market on Thursday.

Accused, who appeared at Belfast Custody Court to-day, was ordered four months' imprisonment in all to cover both charges.

He said his real name was M'Cubrey and that he had given the name of Nixon as he had a good home and did not want his name in the newspapers. He had 21 previous convictions, four of which were for loitering.

"INTERESTED" IN SANTA CLAUS.

Detective-Constable J. Creagmile gave evidence as to seeing accused and two other men at the tram stop at the G.P.O. They were mixing with passengers and boarded the tram. Witness attempted to board the tram without success, and then stopped a passing motorist and followed the tram down York Street, later boarding it. The men then left the tram, and when witness got off it they had disappeared. He later saw the three men at the tram stop at the G.P.O. One of the men in accused's company was a well-known pickpocket.

The constable also gave evidence as to seeing the accused and the other two men jostling people in a store at Cornmarket. The men stayed where the crowd was greatest—near Santa Claus. (Laughter.)

The Resident Magistrate—Perhaps he wanted to put something in the children's stockings. (Laughter.)

Accused, in evidence, denied the offence, and at the conclusion of his testimony the Resident Magistrate made the statement quoted at the outset.

FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE.

ANOTHER SUFFOLK OUTBREAK.

There was a second outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Suffolk on Friday and 23 head of cattle belonging to Mr. C. C. Easey, of Hall Farm, Reydon, near Southwold, will be destroyed. All the stock at Grove Farm, Pakefield, near Lowestoft, where the first outbreak was confirmed yesterday, has been destroyed.

Yesterday men were dragging out the carcases into a field where trenches have been dug for them to be burned.

THREE NEW MINELAYERS.

THE ORDERS PLACED.

The Admiralty have decided to place orders for the three minelayers of the 1938 programme—subject to the settlement of certain points—with Messrs. Alex Stephen & Sons, Ltd., Linthouse, Govan; Messrs. J. I. Thorneycroft & Co., Ltd., Woolston Works, Southampton, and Messrs. J. Samuel White & Co., Ltd., Cowes, Isle of Wight.

WOMAN SAVED FROM JAIL.

MAGISTRATE'S "CHRISTMAS BOX."

The Liverpool stipendiary magistrate, Mr. Stuart Deacon, gave a "Christmas box" yesterday to a woman who admitted stealing gloves and purses from a store.

He originally sentenced Mrs. Louisa Buckley, aged 44, of Melrose Road, Liverpool, to 21 days' hard labour, but after the court had finished she was brought back into the dock at her own request and pleaded with Mr. Deacon to let her "be with my children for Christmas."

Mr. Deacon, after stating that he had been previously told that the woman, who was separated from her husband, was living on £1 a week public assistance, and in 1930 had been bound over for being drunk in charge of a child, acceded to her plea, and reduced the sentence to a fine of 40s, allowing Mrs. Buckley 21 days in which to pay the fine.

WOMEN USE 1,400 FACE SHADES.

In an investigation of powder, pastes, lotions and enamels now being manufactured in America, officials in Washington discovered that modern women paint themselves in 1,400 different shades.

CAVALRY BRIGADE COMMANDS.

The appointment of Colonel M. O-M. Creagh, General Staff Officer, 1st grade Senior Officers' School, Sheerness, to be Commander 1st Cavalry Brigade with the temporary rank of Brigadier, in place of Colonel (temporary Brigadier) C. W. M. Norrie, whose tenure expires on August 1, 1939, was announced last night.

The War Office also announces that Colonel F. Thornton, General Staff Officer, 1st grade 7th Division (temporary), is to be Commander 2nd Cavalary Brigade, with the temporary rank of Brigadier, vice Colonel (temporary Brigadier) C. A. Heydeman, who is being appointed Commander of the Presidency and Assam District, India, with effect from August, 1939.

"WORDS ARE THINGS; AND A SMALL drop of ink, falling like dew upon a thought, produces that which makes thousands, perhaps millions, think."

—Byron.

There is more in the Baird creative printing service than the setting of type. There is careful planning, meticulous selection of material and craftsmanship of the highest order. ***Much thought goes to the making of Baird printing.***

Simplify that intricate printing job you have in mind. Ask Baird's for their assistance. Their advice (backed by the most modern equipment) is at your service. Telephone 22411 (nine lines), write, or call personally for full discussion of your printing problems.

W. & G. BAIRD, LTD.,
CREATIVE PRINTERS
ROYAL AVENUE, BELFAST

AMUSEMENT NOTICES.

ROYAL CINEMA (Arthur Square) NEXT WEEK
Continuous Daily from 1 p.m.
OUTSTANDING REVIVAL PROGRAMME:
EDWARD G. ROBINSON — MARY ASTOR
In the Sensational Story,
THE MAN WITH TWO FACES
BETTE DAVIS—LEWIS STONE in BUREAU OF MISSING PERSONS

NEXT WEEK CLASSIC Daily from 12-15
Robert Louis Stevenson's KIDNAPPED
— with —
WARNER BAXTER
FREDDIE BARTHOLOMEW
C. AUBREY SMITH
PETER LORRE
LYNN BARI
— in —
MR. MOTO'S GAMBLE
RESTAURANT OPEN TILL 11 p.m.

See the Famous WOODVALE PLAYERS in
ALL-STAR VARIETY
at ASSEMBLY HALL
BOXING DAY (Monday), Dec. 26, and TUESDAY, Dec. 27,
At EIGHT o'clock (Doors open 7-15).
The Artists include Geraldine Costigan, Morelli Bros., "Gracie at the Mike,"
The Four Melody Boys, Ena Mack, The Woodavle Follies,
AND STRONG SUPPORTING CAST.
RESERVED TICKETS, 1/ 6each, can be booked at C.P.A. Office, Howard Street, on Monday, 3—6 p.m., and on Tuesday from 10 a.m.—6 p.m. UNRESERVED TICKETS 6d and 1/-.

OPERA HOUSE
Commencing TO-NIGHT, Dec. 24th, at 7-30.
2-0 — NEXT WEEK. TWICE DAILY — 7-30.
GRAND ANNUAL PANTOMIME.
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
BRILLIANT ALL-STAR CAST includes
WEE GEORGIE WOOD
EGBERT BROS. RICHARD HASSETT
HANNAH WATT.
BOBBIE COOPER—NELL CRIGHTON
NORMAN BOWYER—BRODIE & STEEL.
Seats may be Reserved in Advance.
Parterre and Grand Circle, 4/-; Upper Circle 3/-. Box Office 10—10. 'Phone 22903.

CAPITOL ANTRIM ROAD. 1-5 till 10-45
Mon., Tues., Wed.—HERBERT MARSHALL, VIRGINIA BRUCE, MARY ASTOR
WOMAN AGAINST WOMAN
At 2-30, 4-55, 7-20, 9-45.
Chester Morris, Anne Shirley, Walter Able
LAW OF THE UNDERWORLD
1-5, 3-30, 5-55, 8-20.

IMPERIAL Jan. 6th 11 p.m.
MIDNIGHT MATINEE
ROBERT TAYLOR in
"A YANK AT OXFORD"
Book Now! Tickets 6d, 1/3 and 2/-
Buses to All Parts after the Show

BROADWAY CINEMA FALLS ROAD Doors open 11-30
Boxing Day, Tuesday, Wednesday:
RUGGLES OF RED GAP
CHARLES LAUGHTON, MARY BOLAND, CHARLES RUGGLES and ZASU PITTS
11-30—Children (all ground floor) 3d; Adults, 6d; Balcony, 6d and 1/-.
2 o'clock—Children, 3d, 6d, 9d; Adults, 6d, 1/-, 1/3.

ASTORIA, KNOCK Mon., Tues. and Wed.
Outstanding Holiday Programme —— PAUL ROBESON, IRENE DUNNE, ALLAN JONES in
SHOWBOAT with All Star Cast. And Full Supporting Programme

CURZON ORMEAU ROAD — Free Car Park —
Mon., Tues. and Wed.—GRACIE FIELDS in
LOVE, LIFE AND LAUGHTER
Also SING COWBOY SING
Monday and Tuesday from 1-45 till 11 p.m.

EMPIRE NEXT WEEK—Twice Nightly at 6-30 and 8-50
Matinees at 2-15 Mon., Tues. & Sat. (Dec. 26, 27, 31)
Pete Davis' Magnificent Pantomime, ROBINSON CRUSOE, with Joe Walmer, Stella Peters, Judy Jaxon and Cast of 35 Artistes.
Booking 11 a.m. till 8. Phone 24633

IMPERIAL NEXT WEEK:
BEBE DANIELS and BEN LYON in
"NOT WANTED ON VOYAGE"
Also "IN TOWN TO-NIGHT"
Monday and Tuesday from 12 Noon.

LYCEUM ANTRIM ROAD Mon., Tues., Wed.:
Grand Holiday Attraction—IRENE DUNNE, PAUL ROBESON and cast of hundreds in
"SHOWBOAT"
NOTE—CONTINUOUS FROM NOON

REGAL Mon., Tues. and Wed.: Continuous from 12 noon
HERBERT MARSHALL, VIRGINIA BRUCE and MARY ASTOR in
"WOMAN AGAINST WOMAN"
Also Bob Baker—"THE SINGING OUTLAW"

THE PICTURE HOUSE
ROYAL AVENUE
JOAN MARSH and RAY WALKER in
"BRILLIANT MARRIAGE"
JOE E. BROWN and JUNE TRAVIS in
"A NATURAL BORN SALESMAN"
Cafe Open as Usual during Christmas Holidays.

TONIC HAMILTON ROAD, BANGOR Thursday, 22nd Dec.—3 Days
IRENE DUNNE — DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS in
"JOY OF LIVING"
with ALICE BRADY
STENDAL TODD AT THE ORGAN

£1,030 RAISED FOR HOSPITALS.

BELFAST DRAMA WEEK.

THE CHEQUES HANDED OVER.

At Stormont Castle on Friday, Viscountess Craigavon handed over the cheques representing the proceeds of the recent dramatic week at the Empire Theatre, Belfast.

The proceeds were apportioned to the Royal Victoria Hospital and the Ulster Hospital for Children and Women, Templemore Avenue, Belfast.

Colonel A. B. Mitchell, M.P., chairman of the Royal Victoria Hospital, received the cheque for that institution and Capt. J. Maynard Sinclair, M.P., president of the Templemore Avenue Hospital, the other.

Lady Craigavon was president of the "Week," the organisers being Miss Montgomery, Greyabbey, and Mr. H. C. Taggart.

Lady Craigavon, making the presentations, said she was very proud to be able to announce that the proceeds of the week had amounted to £1,030. This was a magnificent result, and was largely due to two or three causes. The fact that the two charities were so very popular, and, equally important, the splendid organising work of Miss Montgomery and Mr. Taggart. She felt, too, that the naming of the beds after Mr. Neville Chamberlain in appreciation of his efforts for peace had contributed considerably towards the success.

She wished to thank the artists for their excellent work, and the public for such wonderful support.

Handing over a cheque for £501 15s to Colonel Mitchell for the Royal Victoria Hospital and £528 5s to Capt. J. Maynard Sinclair she explained that one donation had been especially earmarked for the Ulster Hospital, which explained the difference in the amounts.

Colonel Mitchell said that Lady Craigavon had been very kind in attributing the success of dramatic week to everyone but herself, but they all knew that the fact that it had her as president had very materially helped it. Her presidency had been a very valuable asset. On behalf of the Board of this hospital he thanked her sincerely. No one knew better than he the difficulty of raising a cheque for £500, and he assured her they would not forget it.

Captain Sinclair also thanked Lady Craigavon, and said he was very glad to have the opportunity of telling the various artists personally how much their work had been appreciated. That the plays had been so good in the previous year had greatly helped in attracting large audiences this year. He also paid tribute to Miss Montgomery and Mr. Taggart.

At the conclusion Viscount and Viscountess Craigavon entertained the company to tea.

GREAT SINGAPORE BASE

NEARING COMPLETION.

TOTAL COST £20,000,000.

WORLD'S STRONGEST NAVAL FORT.

TOOK FIFTEEN YEARS TO BUILD.

Long before the end of next year the new naval base at Seleter, on the Johore Strait at Singapore, will be ready to function at full capacity (writes the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" Naval Correspondent).

The dockyard, the most modern in the world, will then be capable of maintaining and repairing a full-sized battle fleet. The fortifications, probably the strongest ever built to protect a naval citadel, will be complete to the last gun, and the great air station which adjoins the base will be in active commission.

Two of the largest warships built or projected can already be docked at the same time, and the yard workshops are equipped to undertake repairs of any description. Magazines, storage depots, and oil tanks have been planned on a large scale sufficient for the requirements of any fleet likely to visit the Western Pacific.

If a sudden emergency arose, it might be several weeks before a battle fleet could reach Singapore. This accounts for the tremendous strength of the defences and the lavish provision of all essential supplies to enable the fortress to withstand a siege of an indefinite duration.

The base has taken 15 years to build, and represents a capital investment of about £20,000,000, the naval works alone having cost £11,500,000. In the course of the work 5,000,000 tons of soil have been dredged away and 60,000 yards of rock blasted. Guns of the heaviest calibres are mounted in camouflaged emplacements, and the anti-aircraft defences are described as unique.

Until recently it would have been impossible for Britain to make weight of sea power felt in the Far East owing to the absence of docks large enough to take the biggest warships.

The Empire has therefore lived through a period during which its position in a vital strategic area was precarious. That danger zone has now been passed. In Singapore we have a Portsmouth or a Rosyth at the gateway to the Pacific, where henceforth the British Navy can operate in formidable strength if need be.

The Australian Government has recently been assured by the British Government that in case of emergency a battle fleet would be stationed at Singapore. The presence of such a fleet would render not only Australia but all British possessions in the Pacific safe from military invasion besides making Imperial communications secure.

COMBER MILL SCHOOL.

TRIBUTE TO MR. W. ANDREWS.

At the annual distribution of prizes in connection with the Spinning Mill P.E. School, Mr. William Andrews, manager, presented 13 book prizes to children who had attended the previous year without missing a single day, and a watch to Master William M'Nish, who had successfully completed five years' unbroken attendance.

Mr. Taylor, the ex-principal of the Spinning Mill School, said the staff of the school wished to take that opportunity to mark their appreciation of their manager by presenting him with a small token of esteem. Mr. Taylor referred to the happy relationship which always existed between Mr. Andrews and the staff.

Miss Murray, Mrs. Morris, and Mrs. Crowe expressed similar sentiments.

Mr. Andrews, returning thanks, said it was a great pleasure to know that they had found the work so pleasant under his management. Any interest he had shown in the school was not only because of the pleasure which he had in dealing with such an efficient and excellent staff as the school has always had, but also because he desired to carry on the deep interest which his father and mother had in the teachers and scholars of the school.

ASSEMBLY HALL.

The Woodvale Players will be responsible for this year's two-night show in the Assembly Hall, Fisherwick Place, by the Newforge (C.P.A.) Recreation Clubs. The programme will consist of entertaining items of all kinds, with a bit of everything to make a delightful variety treat. The show will be put on on Monday and Tuesday, and there are 1,000 shilling seats each night. Reserves at 1s 6d can be booked at Crane's.

SUICIDE INSTEAD OF MARRIAGE.

Charles Henry Cullen, of Glengall Road, Millwall, gassed himself four days before he was to have been married.

At the inquest yesterday Mr. Geo. Cullen, father of the deceased, said that his son was to have been married on Christmas Day. On the morning of December 21 witness was called to a shed in the yard and found his son dead in a chair.

The Deputy Coroner, Dr. Philip Barlow, said that deceased had left a note from which it was perfectly clear that he was in money trouble and had not enough money to get married.

Dr. Barlow recorded a verdict of suicide while the balance of the mind was disturbed.

MADE IN GERMANY

SCURRILOUS STATEMENTS ABOUT OUR SOLDIERS

"BURNING ARABS ALIVE IN SHED"

"GOUGING PRISONERS' EYES"

The War Office yesterday denied emphatically the slanderous allegations against the conduct of British troops in Palestine which have appeared in the German Press.

THE LATEST STATEMENTS IN THIS CAMPAIGN, WHICH ALLEGE ATROCITIES SUCH AS BRITISH TROOPS GOUGING OUT THE EYES OF PRISONERS AND BURNING PRISONERS ALIVE IN A SHED, ARE UNTRUE, IT WAS OFFICIALLY STATED.

The German official news agency circulated a message yesterday under the headline

"First their eyes gouged out; then killed.

"Incredible brutality of British towards the Palestine Arabs."

According to the message the cruelties practised by the British are unbelievable. They do not confine their activities to operating against sharpshooters, but persecute the civilian population by tortures.

In an attack on the village of Attil, according to the message, five persons were beaten over the head and their eyes gouged out. After they had been mutilated they were killed.

SIGNALMAN'S MILITARY MEDAL

The award of the Military Medal for Gallant and Distinguished Service in Palestine to Signalman Peter Heaton, Royal Corps of Signals, is announced in the "London Gazette."

Signalman Heaton was working the wireless in a very exposed position at the beginning of an action at Bureika about six o'clock on October 10. A small stone wall was put up in front of him, but this afforded very little cover.

As the action developed it was impossible to move the position of the wireless, which Signalman Heaton continued to operate with complete disregard to danger, although under fire from both sides.

At one time he was sending and receiving messages while lying at full length so as to avoid enemy fire. All messages were got through very quickly. Signalman Heaton set a magnificent example of bravery and coolness in action.

ULSTER RIFLES' GALLANTRY

The "London Gazette" publishes the names of nine officers and men of the 2nd Battalion Royal Ulster Rifles whose names have been brought to notice by the General Officer Commanding the British forces in Palestine in recognition of distinguished services rendered in connection with the operations in Palestine during the period September 12, 1937, and March 31, 1938.

The men are Lt.-Colonel (now Colonel R. H. Lorie, Major J. Y. Calwell (now 1st Battalion), Captain (now Major) E. F. Davies, Captain (now Major) W. B. A. Reid, 2nd Lieut. H. E. N. Bredin, W.O. 11 (C.S.M.) J. Doherty, W.O. 11 (C.S.M.) H. E. Whitney, Sergeant A. Rogers, and Rifleman T. C. Shaw.

LAST HALF-HOUR REPRIEVE

JERUSALEM, Saturday.— Sentenced to death by a Military Court in Jerusalem for being in an armed Arab gang which fought a party of the 3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards in an action near Bethlehem, a villager named Jamal Abed el Aziz, aged 36, was saved from the gallows at the eleventh hour.

His execution was fixed for eight a.m., but at 7-30 an Army motor-cyclist dashed up to the Jerusalem Prison with a document ordering the commutation of the sentence.

The last rites had already been given to the man in the condemned cells.—Reuter.

HOLYWOOD PETTY SESSIONS.

'CYCLIST LIKE BIRD FLYING'

"SUFFERED ENOUGH," SAYS R.M.

At Holywood Petty Sessions yesterday, before Mr. J. C. Austin, R.M., there was a number of varied cases, ranging from drunks, no reflectors, and wandering pigs. After imposing nominal fines, there was a Children's Court, at which a boy was summoned for riding a pedal cycle without due care and attention, at Demesne Road, Holywood, on November 15. Mr. John B. Getty defended.

Margaret M'Kelvey said she was driving her car at about 20 miles per hour, when the boy came out of the side road without any warning, struck and damaged the car. "He just came out like a bird flying, and I had no time to do anything," added witness.

Replying to Mr. Getty, witness said that her brakes were very good, and denied that the car travelled 20 or 30 yards before stopping after the collision.

Replying to Mr. Austin, Witness said she only travelled a few yards.

Agnes Gooch, a passenger in the car, corroborated.

Mr. Getty said the boy did not remember anything. He was knocked off his machine on to the road, and his head struck the ground.

Jean Macdonald said she saw the accident. The boy was just coming on to the main road when the car struck his bicycle. She heard no horn sounded, and the car travelled for a distance of about 30 yards, and then came back.

After hearing further evidence, Mr. Austin said it was the usual case of coming out of the side on to the main road. He thought the boy had already suffered sufficient punishment.

District-Inspector Gorman agreed, and added that the case was brought as a warning to young cyclists.

Giving the benefit of the Probation of Offenders Act on payment of 7s costs, Mr. Austin refused to allow the witness Margaret M'Kelvey 15s expenses. "All I am concerned with is the loss of your time of one hour in this court," declared Mr. Austin. "Don't you think the boy has suffered sufficient?"

Witness assented.

ROYAL FAMILY AND CHRISTMAS.

SANDRINGHAM GATHERING.

PRESENTS FOR ESTATE WORKERS.

Preparations for Christmas are now complete at Sandringham, where the King and Queen and other members of the Royal family will spend the holiday.

The ballroom has been transformed into a fairy picture, with a large Christmas tree 20 feet high, on which will blaze a thousand coloured lights.

The tree is decorated with hundreds of crackers and glittering festive ornaments.

Presents will be laid out on tables, and after Christmas more than 200 estate workers and their wives will enter the ballroom to receive presents.

Eight bullocks, representing nearly four tons of meat, have been killed to provide large joints for estate workers.

The King, following the custom of his grandfather and father, will attend at the distribution of the beef.

Prince Edward and Princess Alexandra of Kent were among the holiday-makers who left London yesterday.

They travelled with their two nurses and their nursery maid from Liverpool Street Station to join the King and Queen and the rest of the Royal family at Sandringham.

The young Prince and Princess were dressed alike in pale blue. They travelled in a reserved saloon attached to the ordinary train.

Prince Edward proudly carried a brown leather attache case in his hand all the way from the Royal car to the train. He refused to let go of it.

Before he stepped into the train the 3½-year-old prince shook hands with the stationmaster, and in a clear voice wished him "A Happy Christmas."

CUSTOMS OFFICER DROWNED.

FELL DESCENDING LADDER.

WELL-KNOWN FOOTBALLER.

A young Customs officer, who was to have been married early in the new year, was drowned in the Mersey yesterday, he fell while descending a ladder from the tanker Europe to a Customs launch.

He was Alfred Colin Quine (27), of Hampstead Road, Liverpool, and his fiancee, Miss Joan Herrington, is the daughter of the Liverpool Customs waterguard superintendent.

Quine was a well known amateur footballer, and was regarded as one of the best centre-halves on Merseyside.

The accident happened about 1-30 a.m., a lifebuoy was thrown to Quine and the launch's searchlight picked him out, but when the vessel was within 30 yards Quine disappeared.

THE HOPPER SANK.

The tanker Europe, a Norwegian ship, was proceeding up river after the accident when she was involved in a collision with a Mersey Docks and Harbour Board hopper, which sank.

CHILDREN NEED MORE SLEEP.

EDUCATION M.O.'S REPORT.

"AS IMPORTANT AS NUTRITION."

Some surprising facts about elementary school children are revealed in the annual report of Sir Arthur MacNalty, Chief Medical Officer to the English Board of Education.

The most surprising, perhaps, is that out of the 1,696,527 children examined for their nutritional state in 1937, only 15 per cent. could be classified as excellent. But 73.8 per cent. of the children were normal, and 10.6 per cent. were only slightly sub-normal. This left six in every thousand whose nutritional state could be classified as really "bad."

One of the valuable points mentioned in the report is the great importance of securing that school children should get sufficient sleep. Sleep is as important as nutrition to the growing child.

During 1937, no fewer than 2,671,056 school children in Britain obtained either free milk or milk at reduced prices—4 per cent. more than in 1934—and it is hoped that more children will be so provided with milk during subsequent years. The report points out that children receiving the milk showed an obvious benefit.

LADY DIANA COOPER FINED.

Lady Diana Duff Cooper, of Chapel Street, Belgrave Square, was fined £1 at Bow Street, London, for causing an obstruction with her motor car in the haymarket.

A policeman said the car was left unattended for 55 minutes outside the Carlton Hotel.

Mr. J. A. Foulkes Jones, defending, said while Lady Diana was in the Carlton grill she told an hotel servant to let her know if her car caused an obstruction. She was not so informed. She very much regretted the obstruction.

THAWING PIPES: BURNED HOUSE.

Because the water pipes in his house were frozen, Mr. Edward Arthur Turner, a schoolmaster, left his home in Boundary Road, Chatham, with his wife and baby daughter to stay with relatives.

Yesterday he went home again and put an electric heater under the stairs to thaw the pipes. The stairs caught fire and the house was burned out.

The firemen had to dig through ice and snow before they could get at the hydrant.

Damage of nearly £1,000 was caused.

FITS CURED.

Originally prescribed by one of the most eminent Specialists of his day, Ozerine has cured the worst cases after everything else has failed. In almost every case Fits cease after the first dose, and in time cease altogether. Bottles 2/6, 4/6, and 11/-; by post, 3/-, 5/-, and 12/-. Sold only by I. W. NICHOLL, LTD., Pharmaceutical Chemists, 25 High Street, Belfast. (6)

WITH BOY SCOUTS.

XMAS GOOD TURNS.

SEA TRAINING MOVEMENT.

USE OF SCHOONER FALCON.

A merry Christmas to every Cub, Scout, and Rover, and to every Scout officer and Scout worker.

To-day, in every part of the British Isles, Scouts are working on one of the biggest good-turns of the year—Christmas feasts for poor children, morning breakfasts, parcels of food for needy families, decorating hospital wards, entertaining crippled children, distributing clothes, and many other activities. In computing the value of this splendid voluntary work, it should be remembered that Scouts are impressed upon by their officers that the Christmas good-turn should be organised by personal contribution of effort, time and sacrifice, and they are taught that, though the extent of the effort means a lot to people in need of help, the spirit behind it matters every bit as much to Scouting.

In Belfast almost every Scout contributes his share. There is no central organisation to direct the boys, because each troop (and sometimes patrol) works out its own little scheme and finds an outlet for its own particular charity. To enumerate every troop's Christmas activity would require a great deal of space and time. Sufficient it is to mention months of work in producing calendars—a task that one troop has undertaken for thirteen years, and whose profits this year amount to more than £12. Carol singing, concert performances and toy-making and repairing all help to swell the funds—funds that enable Scout troops to purchase food for the parcels they assemble in their own clubrooms—money that assists Scouts to complete the good-turn they carry through from start to finish. Throughout Ulster the good work goes on. Larne Scouts have been busy for weeks. Patrols in Bangor troops have made themselves responsible for parcels, and in Portadown Scouts there are assisting with the British Legion parcels. It is difficult to mention all, but it is certainly pleasing to know that Scouts in Ulster are devoting all their energies to doing something worth while in this season of good cheer and happiness.

THE COLD WEATHER.

The present extremely cold weather has been received with mixed feelings, and especially with regard to the snow that fell earlier there is divergence of opinion. But unless a thaw sets in during the Christmas holidays the Scout section of the community will particularly appreciate the outdoor possibilities provided by the snow-covered countryside. Tracking is a popular Scouting pastime, and the natural snow trail will be a welcome change from the usual artificial forms of trail-laying. Snow fights, wide games and sleighing will all make for a Scouty Christmastide. In North Belfast one Troop has made an exceptionally good sleigh capable of carrying quite a number of Scouts, and there will be keen disappointment if Jack Frost lessens his grip on the snow-clad hills.

The Boy Scouts of America have been presented with 35,857 acres of land, situated a few miles north-west of Cimarron, New Mexico. The gift was made by Mr. and Mrs. Waite Phillips, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, who also gave the Scouts 50,000 dollars to be used in improving and developing the land for camping purposes. The property is in the Rocky Mountains, all above the height of 7,000 feet. It is in Kit Carson country, through which passes the old Santa Fe Trail between Old Mexico and the United States. It is a camper's paradise, which will be used extensively by Boy Scouts throughout America. There are more than 100,000 Scouts within a 600-mile radius of the property.

EAST BELFAST EXECUTIVE.

Captain W. Cecil Whiting presided at a meeting of the East Belfast Executive in Scout Headquarters, Howard Street. Arrangements for the annual East Rouse were discussed and care was taken that these arrangements should not overlap the county show, "The King's Highway." A proposed Scouters' conference was also discussed and the date and venue will be announced later. A meeting of representatives of each Group (Patrol Leaders) was convened for January 9 to organise another East Belfast Patrol Leaders' Conference. The District-Commissioner reported on the successful merger of the 80th and 22nd Groups and the formation of a new Group at Knock (St. Columba's) was sanctioned. District Rover Leader R. M'Kenzie outlined the activities of the East Belfast Table Tennis League. The resignation of Assistant District Commissioner R. R. Clark was received with regret. The Rovers of East Belfast will greatly miss Mr. Clark's guidance and leadership.

The need for a Sea Scout Group in Belfast was mentioned in this column some months ago, and it is now possible to announce that the steps taken since that time will shortly result in the inauguration of a Sea Scout Group in the Port of Belfast. The difficulties of obtaining suitable headquarters and of interesting a man well versed in seamanship presented serious problems to local Scout officers. The first obstacle was surmounted by securing permission to use the schooner Falcon, anchored in the Clarendon Dock, and the North Belfast chairman, Mr. R. Clements Wilson, succeeded in finding a friend of Scouting who is willing to assume the responsibilities of leadership. Assistant County Commissioner J. W. T. Watters now proposes to begin with a Rover Sea Scout Crew, on the understanding that a Sea Scout Troop must be formed within a few months. A meeting of interested Rovers will be held on January 4.

BANGOR AND LARNE SEA SCOUTS.

Though Belfast has lagged behind in Sea Scouting the same cannot be said of Bangor, where a Sea Scout Troop will celebrate its fifth birthday in January. This Troop has been working hard during the past two months fitting out a new headquarters in the grounds of the Bangor Grammar School. The headquarters should be shipshape in the beginning of the year. Larne is also making good progress with Sea Scouting. A Sea Scout Patrol has been formed in connection with 3rd Larne. In the three months of its existence the Patrol has made a place for itself in district activities, and its members were in attendance at two recent church parades.

Those interested in Sea Scouting will especially welcome the film show arranged for Rovers, Scouts and Cubs to take place on February 1. In the Sea Scout film, which is to be screened with other Scout films, Rover Scout Peter Dawson, the famous baritone, sings the rousing theme song, "The sea is the life for me."

A Wellington (New Zealand) cablegram says:—The Cornwell Badge (the Scouts V.C.) has been awarded posthumously to Rover Michael Rex Rapter, of Brooklyn, Wellington, for courage and endurance during a long illness.

LOST MEMORY MAN IDENTIFIED.

The mystery man who was admitted to Salisbury Infirmary late on Tuesday night suffering from loss of memory was identified last evening as Harold Ernest Gibbon, 43, a former Salvation Army adjutant, and at one time a missionary in China.

Salvation Army people dressed in their uniforms have been attending the hospital singing carols, and the sight of these enabled Gibbon to remember his former connection with the Army, and also that he has a brother living at Park Crescent, Finchley, London.

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£5,000,000 DEAL.

LORD BUTE CARDIFF ESTATE SALE.

NEARLY HALF OF CITY.

DOCUMENTS SIGNED.

Property valued at approximately £5,000,000, owned by the Marquis of Bute, in Cardiff and Penarth, changed hands on Friday when the Marquis whose family has been associated with Cardiff for hundreds of years, and Mr. Lionel Wigram, a young London solicitor, signed documents which transferred nearly half of Cardiff to Western Ground Rents, Ltd., a company formed for the purchase of the land.

The chairman of the company is Lord Kennet, formerly Sir Hylton Young (Minister of Health). They take over the property on Christmas Day.

They intend to embark on an entirely new policy of administration.

Much of the property concerned is right in the heart of the city, and already plans are being formed for building and development of open spaces.

The plans also include the building of 1,400 houses of the better-class type in picturesque surroundings less than 10 minutes from the City centre, but the new owners have intimated that they are prepared to preserve a proper proportion of open spaces.

They have also stated that they propose to work in the closest harmony with the Cardiff Corporation in the matter of development, and it is also stated by the new owners that it will be part of their policy to encourage purchases of freehold.

The fact that the deal was in progress was first made public last May.

The property involved comprises a great part of Cardiff's dockland—which the Marquis's father and grandfather created—very large fertile areas around the city and neighbouring villages.

There are also the Cardiff Shipping Exchange, great iron and steel works, about 20,000 houses, 1,000 shops and several theatres and cinemas.

HOSPITAL SAVING ASSOCIATION.

OVER TWO MILLION MARK.

WORKERS CONTRIBUTE WEEKLY.

Every week more than 2,000,000 wage earners hand over 3d to help the hospitals and make provision for treatment for themselves should they ever need it.

They belong to the ever-growing army of members of the Hospital Saving Association. The 2,000,000 mark has just been passed, yet 15 years ago there were but 15,000 of them.

The growth of the movement has been remarkable. In 1923 the 15,000 contributors were divided into 193 groups and the total income of the association was £2,176.

To-day there are 14,000 groups for the 2,000,000 contributors, who paid a total of £1,088,733 to the funds during the year ended July, 1938. London voluntary hospitals have received £571,565 in the past year, and County Council hospitals in the London area got £149,129.

In addition cheques totalling £125,000 have now been sent to 130 hospitals in the London area as "Christmas gifts."

The H.S.A. was really born of a financial crisis after the war which threatened the end of the voluntary hospital system.

King Edward's Hospital Fund for London formed a committee to implement the report and Sir Alan Anderson, M.P. (now chairman of the H.S.A.), with the help of the committee, drew up the contributory system which became the Hospital Saving Association. It was formed in July, 1922.

In those 16 years it has paid nearly £6,000,000 for hospital services out of the threepences of wage earners.

During the year ending July 31, 488,757 contributors and dependents were treated at voluntary hospitals—111,298 in-patients and 377,459 out-patients.

Now the H.S.A. aims at even greater heights.

"We are hoping for a membership of 3,000,000," an official at the headquarters in Lancaster Gate, London, said.

PAID PRISONERS WORK BETTER.

A marked improvement in the output of work by prisoners after the introduction of a system of payment is recorded in a report issued on Winson Green Prison, Birmingham.

Towards the end of October a remuneration scheme was started which provides for the payment of small sums according to the work performed by prisoners serving sentences of three months and over. These sums, the report says, may be used for buying tobacco, cigarettes, and other articles.

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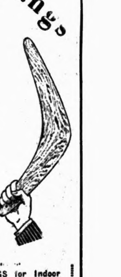


LONDON TRANSPORT INQUIRY.

"LAVISH EXPENDITURE"

ON NEW CAPITAL WORKS.

A committee has been appointed to "consider from every angle" the position which has arisen regarding holders of London Transport "C" stock, and to determine the manner to be adopted in dealing with it.

This was announced in the publication of a report of a meeting at Caxton Hall, Westminster, of certain holders of the stock, whose individual holdings are £5,000 nominal and over.

The committee will consist of five stockholders with power to co-opt two other members.

Mr. John F. Heaton, chairman of Thos. Tilling, Ltd., who presided over the meeting, stated that during the five years of the London Passenger Transport Board's existence the net revenue had never been sufficient to meet even the standard rate on "C" stock, and in the last completed year fell short of the figure set out in the pro forma statement by a figure in excess of £500,000.

He pointed out that this was the first Board of its kind, and in its creation there had been an attempt to blend principles of extreme Socialism with those of private enterprise, with the result that very grave difficulties had arisen.

The "C" stockholders would now appear to have a more or less perpetual right to apply for the appointment of a receiver or a receiver and manager. This was an anomalous and undignified position for a Board so recently created through a Government measure.

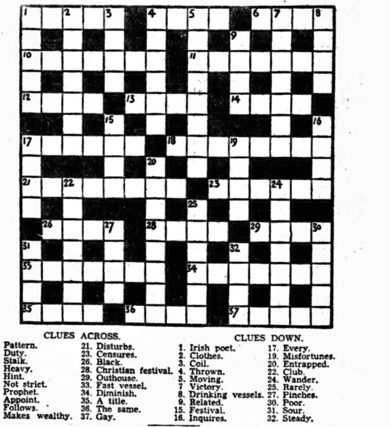
Mr. Heaton finally criticised the Board for its "lavish expenditure" on new capital works and improvements at a time when the revenues were insufficient to meet the charges by Statute they were called upon to meet.

BURIED BY EXPLOSION.

When her home in High Level Road, Gateshead, was wrecked by a gas explosion beneath the kitchen floor on Friday afternoon, Miss Edith Brownlee, aged 32, was buried by wreckage and had to be pulled clear by passers-by who heard her cries.

She was extricated a few minutes before fire broke out in the ruins. She was treated in hospital for slight facial injuries.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS.

1. Pattern.
4. Duty.
6. Stalk.
10. Heavy.
11. Hint.
12. Not strict.
13. Prophet.
14. Appoint.
17. Follows.
18. Makes wealthy.
21. Disturbs.
23. Censures.
26. Black.
28. Christian festival.
29. Outhouse.
33. Fast vessel.
34. Diminish.
35. A title.
36. The same.
37. Gay.

CLUES DOWN.

1. Irish poet.
2. Clothes.
3. Coil.
4. Thrown.
5. Moving.
7 Victory.
8. Drinking vessels.
9. Related.
15. Festival.
16. Inquires.
17. Every.
19. Misfortunes.
20. Entrapped.
22. Club.
24. Wander.
25. Rarely.
27. Pinches.
30. Poor.
31. Sour.
32. Steady.

SOLUTION TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE.

ACROSS: 1, Couples; 9, Conflict; 10, Affair; 11, Note; 13, Rapid; 14, Anno; 16, Idol; 17, Govern; 19, Held; 21, Ursa; 23, Leas; 27, Tire; 28, Outset; 30, List; 32, Maps; 33, Wager; 35, Aria; 36, Repose; 37, Wherries; 38, Reveals.

DOWN: 2, Offender; 3, Plato; 4, Earned; 5, Bore; 6, Afar; 7, Simple; 8, Student; 12, Tall; 15, Ogre; 18, Vast; 20, Dues; 22, Sate; 24, Proposal; 25, Powwows; 26, Blur; 29, Tugged; 31, Scarce; 32, Maple; 34, Rare; 35, Aver.

LINEN TRADE REVIEW.

Raw Material Values Still Rising

Chintzes In Select Designs And Colours—Important Advantages—World's Fair Committee—How Hitler May Have Helped Ulster — Sudeten Goods Now German—Belgian Research Move—Scutchers And Reorganisation—Constructive Attitude.

(From a Special Correspondent).

Activity in the linen trade this week was confined to the retail section and to the Continental flax markets. Raw material values continue to swing upwards and widen still further the gap between current yarn and cloth prices and actual replacement costs based on to-day's flax values. Despite the seasonal slackness, there are some Ulster mills and factories which will re-open on Wednesday of next week. Recently there has been a great deal of overhauling of machines in preparation for the better trade which is anticipated in the New Year. The recent spell of bitter weather has had some effect on production, particularly in the mills, as linen yarn is more difficult to spin when the temperature falls.

At Industries' Fair.

Linen is in the limelight in the Christmas shopping centres of London. Items such as handkerchiefs are, of course, best sellers at this time of year. The trade was pleased to learn this week that the Northern Ireland Government Agent in London is mindful of Ulster's staple industry, and that Cockspur Street is becoming a linen propaganda centre in the world's greatest capital.

Linen and other chintzes in period and of off-modern styles, will be shown in considerable variety in the textile section of the forthcoming British Industries Fair at Earls Court, London. Regency and Adams motifs will be used, but in more positive colour schemes with cleaner and clearer effects than were used in fabrics of those periods. One firm will make clever use of small scenes, such as an impression of Hyde Park in the 18th century by Anna K. Zinkeisen, frigates in full sail (a design selected by the Crown Prince Baudouin of Belgium), and of architectural motifs, such as spiral flutings.

A London firm will specialise in the production of designs to suit different markets. France, Holland, Scandinavia and the United States all buy British chintzes, but have strong colour preferences. There is a strong feeling for linen chintzes in most overseas countries. Linen upholstery fabrics possess several important advantages—they do not crack and pull as glazed chintz sometimes does, and they will not split as chintzes made of other fibres are prone to do. As a drape linen greatly outlasts silk, and the best grades are absolutely colour-fast. It is interesting to note that comparatively recently the pre-shrinking process has been applied successfully to furnishing linens. An advantage is that loose covers in this fabric can be made with zip fasteners, only practical when the material is guaranteed against shrinkage. In colourful print designs, such Sanforised linens are retailing at around 4s 11d in 48-in width.

Propaganda In U.S.A.

Recently linens and cottons for cruising have been featured in the leading Transatlantic stores. Macy's New York, in their annual cruising display, showed some attractive new Irish novelty linens in embroidered effect patterns. Pink was a popular colour, and there were also drawn-thread linens and a crepe with shadow stripes printed in floral design. The linen propaganda campaign in the States will soon be in full swing, but it has been found necessary to reduce the subscription rates first proposed. Ulster linen will be prominent at next year's U.S.A. World's Fair, as stated in these columns recently. A World's Fair British Linen Committee has now been formed in New York to ensure that Irish linen will not be relegated to the background of the Fair. Mr. Peter Fletcher is chairman of the committee, the other members being Messrs. Stewart Carse (York Street Flax Spinning Co.), H. J. O. Letcher (Wm. Ewart & Son), William M'Bratney (Robert M'Bratney & Co.), and Herbert Swann (Samuel Lamont & Sons).

It was officially confirmed in Belfast this week that all textiles or other products made in the Sudeten areas of Czecho-Slovakia are regarded as German goods by the U.S.A. Customs, and increased duties will be levied upon them accordingly unless they were shipped before November 9, 1938. "Greater Germany" (the Reich plus Austria plus Sudeteland) is the only country which does not benefit from the lower linen duties which come into force on January 1, 1939, under the Anglo-U.S.A. Pact. In any case the Sudeten linen firms are quite out of the export picture, as they have been forced by the German Government to raise wages and make large contributions to various National Socialist organisations.

Czecho-Slovakian Exports.

Some figures are now available which are helpful in gauging the extent of how Herr Hitler's acquisition of the main linen districts of Czecho-Slovakia may increase Ulster linen exports in the coming year. During the eight months ended August 31, 1938, Czecho-Slovakia exported 933 tons of grey flax line yarn, worth £177,842, and 132 tons bleached, boiled or dyed linen yarn, worth £31,346. Germany purchased 539 tons, Italy 116 tons, Austria 95 tons, Belgium 74 tons, Yugo-Slavia 64 tons, U.K. 40 tons, and Switzerland 16 tons. In the same period Czecho-Slovakia exported 1,614 tons of unbleached flax tow yarns, worth £194,712, of which sum German purchases accounted for £128,646 and Austrian orders for £24,990. Czecho-Slovakian exports of bleached and dyed linen yarn during the same period totalled 278 tons, worth £37,271, of which Austria took 198 tons, worth £28,420. She also exported 51 tons of other types of flax yarn including thread, worth £22,617.

In the same period Czecho exported 175 tons of plain linen fabrics, worth £42,630; 815 tons bleached ditto, worth £42,630; 815 tons bleached ditto, worth £207,676; 331 dyed or printed ditto, worth £111,076; 5 tons unbleached fancy linens, worth £1,176; 90 tons bleached ditto, worth £30,681; 59 tons dyed or printed ditto, worth £19,964; 60 tons linen damask, worth £33,645; 6 tons printed or dyed ditto, worth £2,821; and 1 ton embroideries, worth £1,148. It is noteworthy that the U.S.A., with Austria a bad second, took the bulk of the damask exports. The U.S.A. also bought from Czecho-Slovakia in the first eight months of this year, 677 tons of plain linen, worth £135,000, and 178 tons of dyed or printed linen, worth £48,916, a goodly share of which Transatlantic business should be diverted to Ulster in future.

It is not exhilarating to learn that the remaining Czecho-Slovakian manufacturers tempted by lower U.S.A. duties, are now licking their wounds and preparing a linen "come-back." The remaining mills and factories are planning extensions, and farmers are being urged to grow more flax. Furthermore, the Dutch linen factories, encouraged by the lower U.S.A. duties, are planning to make a big effort to enter the Transatlantic market, which Czecho-Slovakian competition had hitherto largely denied them. It must be remembered that Germany is a good purchaser of Ulster yarns, and that the addition of the Sudeten flax spindles to the German linen industry may reduce Germany's flax yarn imports. Hitler's Austrian anschluss was not important from a linen aspect, as that country possessed post-war only some 9,000 flax spindles and 320 linen looms — equivalent to half a small Ulster mill and of a medium-sized Ulster linen factory.

Active Flax Markets.

Home and Continental flax spinners have been unusually active in the Belgian and Baltic flax markets during the period under review. The Latvian and Lithuanian flax authorities have again hoisted prices after the substantial sales effect during the past few days. Estonian fibre values have also hardened in sympathy. The last Belfast boat from Rotterdam carried 300 bales of flax and 54 tons of tow for Ulster, while 5,964 bales of Flemish flax and 840 bales of Flemish tow were shipped to Belfast in the Ghent boat. Corresponding purchases by France were 3,849 bales of Flemish flax and 2,322 bales of tow; by Germany, 680 bales of flax, and by Scotland 500 bales of flax. All good medium fibre is now encountering a very brisk sale in the Courtrai markets. There is a decided scarcity of low-end and dew-retted descriptions, and tow is at a premium.

In November Belgium exported 19 146 bales of flax and tow to France, 14,750 bales to Ireland; 1,820 bales to Germany; 950 bales to Scotland, and 340 bales to America. Belgium has always cast covetous eyes on our Linen Industry Research Association, and now she is planning to have one of her own on the same lines. It is proposed that the main funds shall be raised by a levy of 25 centimes per bale on all flax and flax tow marketed in Belgium. Flax buyers are asked to deduct this sum in future from the purchase price paid by them for fibre, and hand the money over to the Belgian Flax Research Association ("Comite de Recherches Linieres"). This applies to Irish buyers as well as to Belgian spinners and those of other countries. I understand that the Irish Flax Spinners' Association has agreed to the scheme, so far as its own members are concerned, and subject to the approval of the Belgian flax scutchers and dealers.

Recently the Belgian Flax Spinners' Association appealed to their Government to increase import duties on foreign linen yarn. They pointed out that the Belgian flax spinning mills were working at under half capacity while substantial quantities of Irish and French yarns were being imported by the linen manufacturers of Flanders. I hear that the Belgian Government is unlikely to sanction an increase in yarn duties, as Ireland and France are such important buyers of Flemish flax and tow. The Belgian flax spinners have also pleaded for export duties on Flemish flax, pointing out that they are now finding it virtually impossible to buy from Russia, and very difficult to buy from the Baltic, while flax is dear at home owing to the large purchases made by Irish, French, and German spinners. The Belgian flax producers, scutchers, and dealers are up in arms against this suggestion, and it also is unlikely to bear fruit.

Scutchers' Resolution.

Leading members of the Northern Ireland Flax (Scutch) Mill Owners' Association met in Belfast on Monday, and passed a resolution calling upon the Government and the Irish Flax Committee to recognise it fully "as the proper authority for the reorganisation of the scutching industry." It was announced that new branches of the Mill Owners' Association have now been formed in the Rathfriland, Magherafelt - Cookstown, Armagh, and Limavady-Dungiven districts, and further branches are planned for other Ulster flax-growing centres. An interesting statement from the executive sub-committee's memorandum, which was read at the meeting, was:—

"As an association we are prepared to introduce a scheme for the speedy installation of modern machinery for the efficient scutching of flax. To do so we are prepared to reorganise our industry from within, and to act for the growers and in sympathy with the trade on sound lines and equitable terms. In our opinion, the farmer should be free to sell his flax green dried or dew retted if he so desires; he should also be free to hold it for sale until after it has been scutched; and in preparation for scutching he should have his option of green drying, dew retting, dam or tank retting. The choice of alternatives should encourage the farmer and give him confidence in that he is not confined to one outlet for his crop."

It is evident that the Ulster scutching interests have adopted an enlightened and constructive attitude in vivid contrast to their standpoint of some five months ago. There is little doubt that once the Irish flax production industry has got under way the spinning interests will gladly leave the decorticating process to members of the Scutchers' Association.

It is opportune to remark that scutching shortcomings are not infrequently partially the fault of the grower. Some Ulster farmers want their flax to weigh heavy, and do not encourage the scutcher to clean it properly. Probably they have not realised how light "shives" are, and how much they lose by keeping them in flax. In 100 stones of flax, if the shives are left, there would not be more than 14lbs. of shives. Let us suppose, for example, the farmer gets 9s per stone, bringing in £50; if the shives were removed he might well have 99 stones realising 11s per stone. In the first case he receives £45, and in the second £54 9s. Has he not sold his shives dearly?

Flax arrivals in the rural Ulster markets were smaller this week, owing probably to adverse weather conditions. Noteworthy markets were Ballymena (30 tons), Ballymoney (10 tons), Cookstown (14 tons), Coleraine (14 tons), Strabane (12 tons), and Banbridge (4 tons). Prices ranged from 7s 6d to 11s per stone, with tow at from 3s to 5s per cwt.

Flax and Tow Values.

Nominal flax and tow values:—Irish flax, £64 to £88; IV. Group Slanetz, £96 to £97, basis 1; Ralo tow, No. 8, £74 to £75; Latvian Livonian, £76 to £79, basis R; Werro/Petschory halves, £76 to £77 10s, basis R; Lithuanian, Group 1, flax, £68 10s to £69 10s, basis R, all per ton c.i.f. U.K. Nominal values in Ulster of machine-hackled water-retted tows:—Courtrai, £66 (roughing); £70, No. 1; £74, No. 2; £78, Nos. 3-4; Irish, £58 (roughing); £61, No. 1; £64, No. 2; £67, Nos. 3-4; Baltic, £55 (roughing); £57, No. 1; £59, No. 2; £61, Nos. 3-4. Nominal Irish linen yarn values:—Sheer warps, 90's to 110's, 7s 4½d; 150's, 8s 6d, per bundle; Cambric warps, 75's to 85's, 7s 4½d; 100's, 7s 9d, per bundle; Tow wefts, 12's, 15s 9d; 14's, 13s 9d; 25's, 10s 3d; 40's, 7s 6d per bundle; Line wefts, 40's, 9s; 50's, 8s; 80's to 130's, 6s 9d, per bundle. 140's, 6s 10½d, and 150's, 7s 1½d, all per bundle of 60,000 yards of grey yarn. Nominal Scottish dry spun linen yarn values:—Tow weft, 3 lbs., 3s per spindle; 3½ lbs., 3s 3d per spindle; 4 lbs., 3s 6d per spindle; tow warps, 3½ lbs., 3s 8d per spindle; 4 lbs., 3s 11d; 5 lbs., 4s 7d; flax warp, 2½ lbs., 3s 6d; 3 lbs., 4s, all per spindle; flax warp, 4 lbs. to 5 lbs., 1s 3½d per lb.; 2 lbs. flax, three-ply, 1s 8½d per lb.; 2½ lbs. flax, three-ply, 1s 6½d per lb.

I note that the New Zealand Government Stores Control Board is calling for tenders for the supply of 1,100 yards of 36in. flax canvas, equal to Sample No. 40, and 16,000 yards of 54in. linen sheeting, equal to Sample 64. Tenders must be lodged in Wellington, New Zealand, by February 8, 1939. Incidentally I observe with pleasure that the Ministry of Home Affairs, Stormont, is inviting tenders for the supply of linen sheeting for the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

PEACE CIGARETTE.

RITUAL IN RHODESIAN CHURCH.

WITH LEFT HAND SHAKE.

Two natives holding leading positions in a Southern Rhodesian missionary community in the Anglican Church were on bad terms with each other. At a meeting of elders the European priest in charge appealed to the men to forget their differences and left the meeting.

On the following Sunday the missionary in charge was away on tour, and no European was present at the strange ceremony of reconciliation that took place in the church.

What happened is told in the current number of the Southern Rhodesian Diocesan Magazine, from an account given by a native teacher who was a member of the congregation.

After the usual prayers and sermon, one of the large Gospel Lights was brought from the Sanctuary and placed at the entry to the Chancel under the Rood. The two natives who had been at enmity stood one on each side of the candle.

A native teacher then told the congregation that the "Holy Candle" gave its bright light, but that its smoke was quickly dissipated in the air. He then cut a cigarette in half, lit each half from the candle, and gave one to each of the two men, who smoked it in front of the people.

Each was then asked if he was ready to forgive the other. Both replied that as the smoke only entered their mouths, and not their lungs, and that as they blew it away it vanished, in like manner their hearts were now free from anger, which had vanished also.

Both men were then handed a whole cigarette, and each in turn went to the other to "beg for fire" from the still lighted cigarette that had been lit from the candle.

It was then explained to the congregation that as the contending parties had asked and accepted fire from each other, and the smoke had vanished, it was the duty of all to abstain from any further talk about the quarrel. "Moswa yapera nasi"—the matter is finished to-day.

Finally, all the congregation shook hands with the parties, using the left hand, as the left hand is on the side of the heart.

[The use of the left hand suggests the influence of the Boy Scouts, and the candle the Toc H lamp. It may be added that it is an old native custom to take snuff together in token of reconciliation.]

WHEN IT'S WARM IN MAURITIUS.

Southern Rhodesia's rainfall for the season is expected to be above the average, according to the seasonal forecast issued by the Chief Meteorologist in Salisbury.

The rainy season corresponds roughly with late autumn and winter in this country, and good rains have already been experienced in most parts of the Colony.

The data from which Rhodesian seasonal weather forecasts are calculated include the height of the Nile floods, atmospheric pressure at Rio de Janeiro, and temperatures at Mauritius.

THE MAYOR AND THE MOON.

An economy measure which will also make road travel safer has been put into force at Woburn (Massachusetts) by Mayor William E. Kane.

If there is a full moon and the night is not cloudy the town will have no street lighting.

He thinks that the combination of street lighting and the light from the moon cause a glare which is dangerous for traffic.

To residents who have protested at the prospect of dark streets he has offered free electric lamps for installation over their porches.

ARMY OF FROGS INVADE TOWN.

An army of frogs invaded the town of Te Aroha (New Zealand) after a downpour of rain had occurred there.

The creatures, which are protected by law in Te Aroha, swarmed along the pavements and roads and into shops from which terrified women customers ran screaming.

Many hundreds of the frogs were killed by passing cars. Others were found behind shop counters, on shelves, and in barrels and other places.

PRAISE OF BALD-HEADED MEN.

Bald-headed men are happier, brighter, kindlier than the others in the opinion of the deputy Mayor of New York. Mr. Henry H. Curran, who has just issued a strong defence of men without hair.

Mr. Curran had received an appeal from a woman resident asking him to help her in a campaign against baldness "for the good of humanity."

In an open letter in which he replied to this request Mr. Curran asked "Why not be bald." He continued:

"Nobody ever made a nickel out of his hair. We cannot sell it or use it or rent it or put it in a show window. Instead we pay out all the time to a barber, who cuts part of it off or curls it into a handle-bar moustache or burns it alive with a singeing machine or fills it full of whale oil or macassar or some other fearful form of grease.

"Or he may suddenly turn an electric lawn-mower loose on it or with great effort stand it right up straight as a pompadour or even do a sculptor's job by creating on the chin one of those abbreviated monsters known as a galway. The only good our hair does is to help the barber pay the rent.

"The bald-headed man is happy as he is. With a high degree of intelligence within his polished pate he is kindlier to his fellows than the ordinary man, more tolerant of their foibles, more resigned to his own. He chuckles and beams in or out of the front row. A ray of sunshine in an anxious land, a rollicking bald-headed Santa Claus—blessings on thee, bald-head man."

THE PRINCESS AND THE RING.

Christmas shopping was in full swing at one of the counters of a large New York department store when a salesgirl found a ring on her counter. Busy with customers, she tossed it into a small tin box full of trifles. That was two days ago. Now it has been claimed from the lost property office by Princess Doris Farid es Sultaneh, of Paris, who had lost it on a shopping tour.

It is valued at £3,000—a 14-carat diamond set in platinum.

REDUCE XMAS ROAD DEATHS.

Police chiefs of every city in the United States with more than 10,000 population have been asked by the U.S. National Safety Council to take part in a campaign to reduce road accidents over the Christmas holiday period.

The Council has suggested that police officers should be assigned to watch danger spots on the roads during the holiday crush, that officers should be stationed at night clubs and other public places to dissuade drinking drivers from taking the wheel, and that all policemen should be instructed not to translate the spirit of Christmas goodwill into leniency towards erring drivers or pedestrians.

"In the final analysis," says the Council, "hope of reducing the usual heavy year-end traffic toll rests largely on rigid enforcement of the traffic laws. National experience has been that the stricter the enforcement the fewer the accidents."

YULETIDE WIRELESS

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENTS

CHRISTMAS DAY programmes which will be broadcast on the Northern Ireland wavelength include:

A Christmas morning service at 11-10 from the Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace,

An exchange of Christmas carols between Germany and England at 2 p.m., and

Reginald Foort at the B.B.C. theatre organ at 2-30.

EUROPEAN TOUR.

At 5-40 listeners will hear:

"Christmas Over Europe," a journey through Sweden and Germany, Czecho-Slovakia and Greece, Italy and France, and

At 9-10 in the Sunday evening concert:

"The Childhood of Christ" by Hector Berlioz.

National programmes include:

A Nativity play "He That Should Come," specially written for broadcasting by Dorothy L. Sayers, at 6-40.

ORCHESTRAL FEATURE.

Irish Rhythms played by a section of the B.B.C. Northern Ireland orchestra under David Curry, with Peadar O'Rafferty at 5-20, and a radio version of Walt Disney's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" at 9-10.

TO-DAY'S FEATURES.

Community Carols, conducted by Charles J. Brennan, with the Band of the Royal Ulster Constabulary (conductor, District-Inspector George C. Ferguson), will be broadcast at 4-30 p.m. from the City Hall Grounds, Belfast.

The Northern Ireland Singers, under James Denny, will give a programme of lesser known carols at 7-30 p.m., and the B.B.C. Northern Ireland Orchestra will play Christmas Music.

Three programmes for Christmas will be broadcast on the National wavelength: "In Town To-Night" at 7-30, Xmas Sing Song at 8 o'clock, and Christmas Number, with Bransby Williams, as "Scrooge," at 9-40.

H. G. Fleet continues the series "The Ulster Garden" at 7 o'clock, and at 8-15 George C. Nash comes to the microphone again to talk "Mainly About People."

NORTHERN IRELAND (307.1 METRES).

5-0—The Children's Hour. **6-0**—Regional. **7-0**—"The Ulster Garden." H. G. Fleet. **7-20** — Northern Ireland News. **7-25** — Weather Forecast for Northern Ireland and Northern Ireland Sports Bulletin.

7-30—The Northern Ireland Singers; the B.B.C. Northern Ireland Orchestra; leader, Philip Whiteway, conducted by James Denny. Carols for Christmas. **8-15**—"Mainly About People." George C. Nash. **8-30—12-0**—Regional.

NATIONAL (1,500 METRES).

5-0—A radio version of the famous Ginger Rogers-Fred Astaire film, "Shall We Dance?" **6-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast. **6-30**—Saturday Talk on Sport. **6-45**—The B.B.C. Orchestra (Section E). **7-30** — Stop! In Town To-night.

8-0—A Merry Xmas Sing-song. **9-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast and Forecast for Shipping. **9-25**—American Commentary. Raymond Gram Swing. From America. **9-40**—Christmas Number. A Christmas programme for varying tastes, arranged by Gwen Williams and Mark H. Lubbock. **10-45**—"The Surprise." A short story by Gerald Bullett, read by Ronald Watkins. **11-5—12-0**—Billy Bissett and his Canadians, with Alice Mann, The Canadian Capers, Sue and her Boy Friends; from the Café de Paris. (Time Signal, Greenwich, at 11-30).

REGIONAL PROGRAMME (342.1 M.).

5-0—The Children's Hour. **6-0**—America presents "Musical See-saw." Orchestra with Chorus. From Radio City, New York. **6-30**—Eugene Pini and his Tango Orchestra. **7-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich. Christmas Greetings to Continental Listeners. **7-30**—Regional Sports Bulletin. **7-35**—Beethoven. Cyril Smith (pianoforte).

8-0—A Carol Service. The B.B.C. Chorus (Section C), and members of the B.B.C. Military Band, from St. Mary's, Whitechapel. **8-30**—"Alas, Poor Ghost!" An anthology of poems. **9-0**—Dance Cabaret, from the Headland Hotel, Newquay. **9-40**—A Recital by Roy Henderson (baritone). **10-0** — Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast; News Talks and Sport, with eye-witness accounts given by four spectators chosen at random from matches played in Scotland, Wales, the North of England, and London. **10-30**—Billy Cotton and his Band. **11-15**—Billy Bissett and his Canadians, with Alice Mann, The Canadian Capers, Sue and her Boy Friends; from the Café de Paris. (Time Signal, Greenwich, at 11-30). **11-50—12-0**—News and Weather Forecast.

NORTH PROGRAMME (449.1 METRES).

5-0—The Children's Hour. **6-0**—Regional. **7-0**—A Recital. Steuart Wilson (tenor). **7-20**—Northern Sports Bulletin.

7-30—Music in Chester Cathedral. A recital of Christmas music, arranged by the Cathedral organist, Malcolm C. Boyle. The Cathedral Choir; the Voluntary Choir; the B.B.C. Northern Orchestra. **8-30**—Regional. **9-0**—"Pre-View." A recorded tour of some of the leading Northern pantomimes, introducing producers and stars at rehearsal. **9-40**—The Corbridge Carol Singers. Christmas carols in the old traditional style, sung by a village choir in the hall of a Northumbrian country house. **10-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast; News Talks and Sport. **10-30**—Regional. (Time Signal, Greenwich, at 11-30). **11-50—12-0**—News and Weather Forecast.

SCOTTISH PROGRAMME (391.1 M.).

5-0—The Children's Hour. **6-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast. **6-15** (app.)—Douglas Colliery Band. **6-50**—Scottish Sports News. **7-5** — Violet Davidson in "Songs I Remember," with the Albury Singers, Nan Davidson. **7-20**—Scottish Announcements and Programmes Summary. **7-30**—The B.B.C. Scottish Orchestra. **8-0**—"Trial by Suffering." A one-act play. **8-30** — Regional. **9-0** — "Strike Up The Band," No. 7. A comedy musical presentation. **9-40**—The Week in Scotland. John R. Allan. **10-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast; News Talks and Sport. **10-30**—Scottish Sports News. **10-40**—Regional. (Time Signal, Greenwich, at 11-30). **11-50—12-0**—News and Weather Forecast.

EIREANN (531 METRES).

5-30—St. Brigid's Pipers' Band. Irish Dance Music. **5-50**—As announced. **6-5**—Lucy Vize's Trio, in Tea-time Music. **6-35**—Oscar Mac Risteard: Mandoline solos. **6-45** — News. **7-0** — Famous Christmas Stories. No. 3—"A Christmas Carol," by Dickens. **7-20**—Irish Radio Orchestra (conductor, Lieut. J. M. Doyle) and Michael Mullins (tenor).

8-10 — "Dear Santa." A reading of Children's Letters, by Val Vousden. **8-25**—Carlos by a Mixed Octet, directed by Julia Gray. **8-50**—"What Christmas Means To Us." Compèred by Eric Boden. **9-20**—Nuacht an Lae. **9-30**—Sponsored programme. **10-30**—Five Minute Appeal for Toys for Children in Cappagh Hospital, by Rev. L. Gallagher, S.J. **10-35**—News. **10-50** Records. **11-5**—Christmas in Irish Folk-lore, by Colm O Lochlainn. **11-35**—Records. **11-55**—Introductory Talk. **12-0**—Midnight Mass, relayed from St. Joseph's Abbey, Roscrea. **12-40**—Close Down.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

NORTHERN IRELAND.

9-30 a.m. — National. **1 p.m.** — Regional. **7-40**—National. **9-10—10-45**—As Regional.

NATIONAL PROGRAMME.

9-30 a.m. — Charles Ernesco and his Quintet, with Webster Booth. **10-0**—"Our Pantomime." Music by Herbert Oliver, sung by The Dolce Singers. **10-30**—Time Signal, Greenwich; Weather Forecast for Farmers and Shipping. **10-45**—The B.B.C. Military Band.

11-10 — A Christmas Morning Service (Church of England) from the Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace, by gracious permission of his Majesty the King. Conducted by the Rev. Preb. L. J. Percival, K.C.V.O., Domestic Chaplain to his Majesty the King. Address by the Rev. E. H. Thorold, C.B., C.B.E., D.D., Chaplain to his Majesty the King and Chaplain-General to the Forces.

12-20 p.m.—Philip Martell and his Forum Theatre Orchestra. **1-0** — A Pianoforte Recital by Irene Kohler. **1-30**—Michaeloff and his Bessarabian Orchestra. **2-0**—"In Your Garden." C. H. Middleton. **2-20**—Orchestral Hour. Favourite pieces from the repertoire of the B.B.C. Empire Orchestra. **3-20**—Scottish C.W.S. Band. **4-0**—Jack Wilson and his Versatile Five. **4-30**—Time Signal, Greenwich. Musical Boxes. Presented by A. J. A. Symons. **5-0**—A. J. Alan will again tell the story of "Wottie,' which he first broadcast in 1928.

5-20—Irish Rhythms. A section of the B.B.C. Northern Ireland Orchestra, directed by David Curry, with Peadar O'Rafferty. (From Northern Ireland). **5-40**—Montague Brearley and his Orchestra. **6-20**—Rawicz and Landauer (two pianofortes).

6-40 — "He That Should Come." A Nativity play specially written for broadcasting, by Dorothy L. Sayers. **7-40**—Fantasia on Christmas Carols, by R. Vaughan Williams. Victor Harding (baritone), G. Thalben Ball (organ); the B.B.C. Chorus, the B.B.C. Orchestra.

7-55—A Christmas Evening Service from the Concert Hall, Broadcasting House. Address by the Rev. W. Thompson Elliott, Canon of Westminster. **8-50**—Wireless for the Blind. An appeal on behalf of the British Wireless for the Blind Fund by Lord Southwood. **9-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast.

9-10—Walt Disney's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." A broadcasting version of the first full-length film cartoon. Compèred and produced by John Watt. **10-10**—"Songs for Sale." Fred Hartley and his Sextet, with Brian Lawrance. **10-45**—Epilogue. (Time Signal, Greenwich, and Shipping Forecast at 11-0).

REGIONAL PROGRAMME.

9-30 a.m.—National programme. (Time Signal, Greenwich, at 12-30). **1 p.m.**—Students' Songs. The B.B.C. Men's Chorus. Stuart Robertson (baritone); at the pianoforte, Ernest Lush. **1-30**—Gramophone Records.

2-0—An Exchange of Christmas Carols between Germany and England of popular Christmas songs. The B.B.C. Singers. The Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church Choir; organist, Walter Drwenski. From the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church.

2-30 — Reginald Foort at the B.B.C. Theatre Organ. **2-50**—The Negro Sings—1. A series of programmes of recorded Negro music. Collected and prepared by the B.B.C. Office, New York. **3-20**—A Recital by Keith Falkner (baritone) and The Grinke Trio. **4-30**—Time Signal, Greenwich. Tongue Twisting Bee. Great Britain v. U.S.A. **5-0**—A Recital. The Stratton String Quartet and Reginald Kell (clarinet).

5-40—Christmas Over Europe. A journey through Sweden and Germany, Czecho-Slovakia and Greece, Italy and France. **6-40**—"Christmas Cheer." Another programme in the "Rivers of Europe" series, devised and conducted by Walford Hyden. **7-40**—National.

8-50—Wireless for the Blind. An appeal on behalf of the British Wireless for the Blind Fund, by Lord Southwood. **9-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast.

9-10—Sunday Evening Concert (ninth season—12). "The Childhood of Christ." A Sacred Trilogy. **10-45**—Epilogue.

NORTH PROGRAMME.

9-30 a.m.—National. **12-50 p.m.**—Christmas Dinner. Turkey and Plum Pudding for 5,000! **1-0**—Regional. **1-30**—Gramophone Records. Russian Choirs. **2-0**—Regional. (Time Signal, Greenwich, at 4-30). **5-0**—Foden's Motor Works Band; Hamilton Harris (bass). **5-40**—Regional. **7-40**—National. **9-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast. **9-10**—Regional. **10-45**—Epilogue.

SCOTTISH.

9-30 a.m.—Gramophone Records. **10-10**—"The Shepherds." A Nativity Play, by George Rowntree Harvey. Produced by Alan Melville. **10-30**—National. **1 p.m.**—Regional.

3-20—A Christmas Service for Children (Church of Scotland), from Corstorphine Old Parish Church, Edinburgh. Address by the Rev. Oswald B. Milligan, M.C. **4-10**—"Christmas on the 'Vital Spark,'" from "Para Handy And Other Tales," by Hugh Foulis (Neil Munro); read by R. B. Wharrie. **4-30**—Time Signal, Greenwich. Regional.

5-0—Christmas Music. The B.B.C. Scottish Singers; The B.B.C. Scottish Orchestra. **5-40** — Regional. **7-40** — National. **9-0** — Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast. **9-10**—Regional. **10-45**—Epilogue.

EIREANN.

10-30 a.m.—Relay of High Mass from Mount St. Joseph Abbey, Roscrea. **11-15**—Close Down.

1-30 till **3 p.m.**—Record of President's Address, followed by Special Christmas Day Gramophone Concert. **5-0**—A Concert relayed from St. Mary's Open-air Hospital, Cappagh, with Sam Mooney, Helen Doyle, Albert Healy, Julia Gray, Bernadette Plunkett. Presented by Paddy Henry.

6-0—Special Christmas Orchestral and Vocal Programme relayed Radio Vatican. **6-45**—Relay of the "Salve Regina," sung by the Cistercian Community, Mount St. Joseph Abbey, Roscrea, followed by the Angelus.

6-50—"The World Celebrates." A tour of other stations, compèred by Bernadette Plunkett. **7-15**—Vocal Quartet in Christmas Songs and Carols. Cecily Kenny (mezzo-soprano), Mairin Fenning (contralto), Joseph O'Neill (tenor), W. J. Lemass (baritone). **8-15**—"Question Time." No. 16. Christmas Double Number; compèred by Eric Boden. **8-50**—Ceilidhe Music by Austin Stack Ceilidhe Band. **9-20**—Seannosanna na Nodlag. Diarmuid O Briain. **9-30**—Sponsored programme. **10-30**—Dance at Home. A programme of old-time dances on records, compèred by Joseph O'Neill. **11-30**—Close.

MONDAY'S RADIO.

BIG FIGHT BROADCAST.

FIRESIDE THRILLERS.

HIGH-SPEED DANCE MUSIC.

There will be a broadcast commentary at 9 o'clock on Monday evening on the fight between Spider Kelly (Londonderry), and Jackie Hurst (London) in the King's Hall, Belfast.

Regional programmes include a Review of the year's books by E. M. Forster, at 7-30, and a programme of uncanny stories overheard at the fireside at 8-15, under the title "Macabre."

From National at 9-10 p.m. Alexander Woolcott, American theatre critic and man of letters, will present a programme about the composer of "Swanee River," Stephen Foster, from New York.

There will be a Christmas Number of "Monday Night at Seven," and Jack Hylton and his Band provide a High-Speed Dance and Entertainment at 8 o'clock.

NORTHERN IRELAND.

10-15 a.m.—National. **10-30**—Weather Forecast for Farmers and Shipping. **10-45**—Regional. **7-0** — Gramophone Records (Variety). **7-25**—Weather Forecast for N.I. and N.I. Sports Bulletin. **7-30**—Regional.

9-0 — Featherweight Boxing. Spider Kelly (Londonderry) v. Jackie Hurst (London). A commentary on the fight by Raymond Glendenning and T. D. Morrison, from the King's Hall, Balmoral, Belfast. **9-45—12-0**—As Regional.

NATIONAL PROGRAMME.

10-15 a.m.—The Daily Service. **10-30**—Time Signal, Greenwich. Weather Forecast for Farmers and Shipping. **10-45**—"I Knew a Man" ("Chekhov"), Paul Shishkoff. **11-30**—A Ballad Concert. Winefride Ingham (contralto), Colin Cunningham (tenor). **11-30**—Chamber Music. Winifred Radford (soprano). The Canadian Trio. **12-10 p.m.**—The Hawaiian Islanders, with Harry Hartland. **12-30**—An Organ Recital from the Concert Hall, Broadcasting House, by Douglas Hawkridge. **1-0**—The Band of the Royal Tank Corps (Wareham). **1-40**—"Old Mr. Rabbit, he's a good Fisherman," and two other stories from "Uncle Remus," read by Geoffrey Tandy. **2-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich. Luigi Voselli and his Hungarian Orchestra, with Louise Hayward. **2-30**—"The Snow Maiden." Prologue of the opera by Rimsky-Korsakov from Sadler's Wells Theatre. **3-5** (app.)—Dance Music on Gramophone Records.

3-40—Cricket. The First Test Match. England v. South Africa. A commentary on the closing overs of the day and a summary of the second day's play, by E. W. Swanton, from the Wanderers' Cricket Ground, Johannesburg. **4-10**—King's Honour." A short story written for broadcasting by Hilton Brown and read by the author. **4-30**—From Gounod to Milhaud. A survey of recorded French Song by Sydney Northcote, D.Mus. **5-0**—Gramophone Records. **5-20**—The Clarilyn Sextet. **6-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast. **6-30**—"You've asked for it." Here are the Gramophone Records that you've chosen.

7-0—Monday Night at Seven (Christmas Edition). **8-0**—Jack's Back. A High-Speed Dance Band Entertainment by Jack Hylton with his Band and numerous artists. **9-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast and Forecast for Shipping. **9-10**—Alexander Woolcott presents "Stephen Foster." Relayed from New York. **9-40**—The Boyd Neel String Orchestra; John Hunt (pianoforte).

10-40—Here's Wishing . . . A Christmas and New Year's Greeting from John Masefield, Walter de la Mare, James Stephens, E. M. Foster. **11-0**—Joe Loss and his Band with Monte Rey, Chick Henderson, Clem Stevens, The Loss Chords, from the Astoria Dance Salon. (Time Signal, Greenwich, at 11-30). **11-30—12-0**—Gramophone Records of jazz celebrities.

REGIONAL PROGRAMME.

10-15 a.m.—The Daily Service. **10-30**—Time Signal, Greenwich. Weather Forecast for Farmers and Shipping. **10-45**—Dudley Beaven at the Organ of the Granada, Welling. **11-15**—The B.B.C. Scottish Orchestra. **12-0**—Fifty Years of the Ring. "As I look back." Ben Bennison. **12-20 p.m.**—Light Music from Italy. E.I.A.R. Salon Orchestra and Choir; Paola della Torre (soprano), from Turin. **1-0**—Peggy Desmond, Queen of the Ivories. **1-15**—Jack Wilson and his Versatile Five. **1-40**—Gramophone Records. British Symphony Orchestra. **2-0**—"To love or not to love." A programme of Gramophone Records.

2-30—Horace Finch at the Organ of the Empress Ballroom, Blackpool. **3-0**—The Folkestone Municipal Orchestra. **4-0**—A Christmas Box of Gramophone Records. **4-30**—Matinee. Presented by Dorothy Hogben with The Matineurs and The Tea Time Five.

5-0—The Children's Hour. **6-0**—Reginald King and his Orchestra. Light Music by British composers. **6-30** — Schubert—1. Songs of 1817-18, sung by Henry Cumings (baritone). **7-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich; News Bulletins in French, German, and Italian. **7-30**—A Review of the Year's Books. E. M. Forster. **7-50**—Christmas Songs and Carols. The B.B.C. Midland Singers.

8-15—"Macabre." A programme of uncanny stories overheard at the fireside. (West of England). **9-0**—Musical Games. **9-30**—Ice Hockey. Wembley All-Stars v. Harringay All-Stars. A commentary on the final period of the match by Stewart MacPherson, from the Empire Pool and Sports Arena, Wembley. **10-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast; News Talks and Sport.

10-15—Joe Loss and his Band, with Monte Rey, Chick Henderson, Clem Stevens, The Loss Chords, from the Astoria Dance Salon (Time Signal, Greenwich, at 11-30). **11-30**—Gramophone Records. Ria Ginster (soprano). **11-50—12-0**—News Summary and Weather Forecast.

NORTH PROGRAMME.

10-15 a.m.—The Daily Service. **10-30**—Time Signal, Greenwich. Weather Forecast for Farmers and Shipping. **10-45**—Regional Programme.

5-0 p.m.—Children's Hour. **6-0**—Regional. **7-0**—Spotlight on Sport. Association Football. Everton v. Derby County, at Everton. An eye-witness account by Stacey Lintott. **7-5**—Halifax Town v. Lincoln City, at Halifax. An eye-witness account by Merton F. Ellison. **7-10**—Songs of Freedom. A short anthology of national songs on Gramophone Records. Compiled by A. J. Dixon. **7-30**—Regional Programme. **7-50**—Beethoven. A Pianoforte Recital by Edward Isaacs. **8-15**—Regional. **10-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich News; Weather Forecast; News Talks and Sport.

10-15—London Log. A Metropolitan Miscellany for the North. F. Buckley Hargreaves. **10-30** — Regional Programme (Time Signal, Greenwich, at 11-30). **11-50—12-0**—News Summary and Weather Forecast.

SCOTTISH.

10-15 a.m.—The Daily Service. **10-30**—Time Signal, Greenwich; Weather Forecast for Farmers and Shipping. **10-45**—Regional Programme. **2-30 p.m.**—Weather Forecast for Scottish Herring Fishermen. **2-35**—Regional Programme.

5-0 — The Children's Hour. **6-0**—Regional. **6-30**—Famous Scottish Organs. A Recital from Pollokshields Parish Church. With notes of interest concerning the organ. Organist, Purcell J. Mansfield. **7-0**—Re-reading of The First News. **7-20**—Scottish Announcements. **7-25**—Gaelic News. **7-30**—"Holly Follies." A Seasonable Revue. **7-50**—Regional.

9-0—Scottish Dance Music. The John MacArthur Quintet. **9-30**—Regional. **10-0**—Time Signal, Greenwich; News; Weather Forecast; News Talks and Sport. **10-15**—Scottish Sports News. **10-20**—Regional. **11-30**—Time Signal, Greenwich. Regional. **11-50—12-0**—News Summary and Weather Forecast.

EIREANN.

1-30 till 3-0 p.m.—Gramophone Concert. **5-30**—As announced. **6-0**—Mairin Ni Sheaghdha. Songs with Harp. **6-15**—"Looking for Laughs." presented by Capt. J. F. Lucy. **6-45**—News. **7-0**—The Banogue Mummers in a St. Stephen's Day Programme, presented and compered by Stan O'Brien.

7-55—Popular Irish Ballads. Frank Gallagher (baritone). **8-10** — Commentary from Abbey Theatre. First night by Beatrice Toal. **8-15**—Relay from Abbey Theatre of Act I. of Frank O'Connor's new play, "The City Dwellers." **8-45**—Commentary (continued). **8-50**—Irish Dance Music. Michael M'Loughlin (accordian). **9-5**—The Best Films of 1938, by Michael Farrell. **9-20**—Nuacht an Lae. **9-30**—Sponsored Programme. **10-30**—News. Programme concluded by Light Music. **11-0**—Close.

HOOTON MITCHELL
FOR GLASSES
13 DONEGALL PLACE

LABOUR IN 1938.

HOLIDAYS WITH PAY PROGRESS.

NO SERIOUS STOPPAGES.

POST OFFICE WAGE INCREASES.

The past year has been a fairly placid one from the Labour and industrial point of view, writes the Press Association Labour correspondent. There have been no big industrial disputes on a national scale.

Sectional strikes have occurred—some of them on a fairly large basis, particularly in aircraft factories and works engaged largely on armament production—but these have been in the main unofficial and have not been sanctioned by the unions concerned.

There have been also bus strikes, which have caused dislocation in some areas but these were eventually settled either as a result of negotiations, or by the influence of the Transport and General Workers' Union on the men concerned.

Miners in some localities also ceased work on local differences, but nationally there has been no big cessation of labour.

Perhaps the most serious stoppage of the year was the railway strike in London, which lasted just under a week. It broke out originally, apart from the sanction of the unions, among ticket collectors and platform staffs at St. Pancras on the ground that a travelling ticket-collector was a non-unionist.

The strike spread to several other stations, and a number of goods depot employes also became involved. The strike, which began on a Monday, ended on the following Saturday after officials of the National Union of Railwaymen had intervened. The men decided to return to work without any definite assurance that the travelling ticket-collector concerned had rejoined the union.

NOTABLE CONCESSION.

One feature of the year has been the rapid growth of the movement for "holidays with pay." This concession has been granted to many workers in important industries, either by negotiations with the unions concerned or by voluntary arrangements between the employers and the workers. The movement has received official impetus, and its progress is considered encouraging.

Discussions have taken place between the trade unions and the Government on speeding up of armaments production. Conferences have also been held on this question between the unions and the engineering employers, and these, it is believed, have had useful indirect results, although no final decisions were announced.

More recently there have been conversations between the Labour Party and the T.U.C. and the Lord Privy Seal (Sir John Anderson) and the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ernest Brown) on the Government's plans for voluntary national service.

The Labour side pressed for assurances on certain points, but made it clear that they would co-operate with the Government in a national scheme for civilian defence—with certain reservations.

The schedule of "key" occupations, from which workers could not be spared for the purposes of the National Register, has been a subject under consideration.

Wage increases have been granted during the year to some sections of workers, more particularly to nearly 150,000 Post Office employes who have gained advances which it is estimated will mean an addition to the wage bill of the Post Office of over £1,000,000 a year.

ENGINEERS AND RAILWAYMEN.

On the other hand, claims made on behalf of over one million engineering employes—many of them engaged in armaments production—were rejected by the engineering employers on the ground that, owing to the general state of the industry, the time was not opportune. The negotiations are to be continued in the New Year, and there is no threat yet of official strike action.

Railway workers have not succeeded in obtaining advances in wages and other claims. The companies have pointed out the state of their finances as a result of decreased traffic revenue, and have approached the Minister of Transport for a "square deal" in competition with road and other forms of transport. This is under the consideration of the Traffic Advisory Council, which will report to the minister.

The claims of the railway unions will come before the National Tribunal under the recognised machinery. There can be no question of future action until this machinery is exhausted.

THEIR TRAGIC CHRISTMAS.

THIRD CHILD DIES IN HOSPITAL.

Six-year-old John Tyrell, of Linkway, Bromley Common, Kent, died last night. He was injured on Thursday night in a fire which killed his two brothers, Michael, aged six weeks, and David, aged two.

On Thursday night Mrs. Tyrell, the mother, left the children asleep while she visited a neighbour. The house was on fire when she returned home. Rescue attempts of the two young children failed, and while the fight with the flames was going on the father, Mr. Edward Tyrell, returned laden with Christmas shopping. John died in hospital.

ARTIST DEAD ON RAILWAY.

"HAPPY AS A SANDBOY."

The body found on the L M S line between Berkhampstead and Tring (Herts) on Thursday has been identified as that of Hubert Henry Dray, a 36-year-old artist, of Banks Road, West Kirby, near Liverpool.

Evidence of identification was given when the inquest was opened last evening and adjourned.

His mother gave evidence that Dray was married and had five children. He had left a Liverpool post to take a better position in London. So far as she knew there were no financial or other worries, and he was as happy as a sandboy with his family.

"NEW WORLD" OF FILMS.

ELDERLY WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE.

Two elderly women who went to London from their Hertfordshire home yesterday to do Christmas shopping in the West End, suddenly decided to go to a cinema. Neither of the women (sisters) had ever been to see a film in their lives.

"It was an amazing experience," said one of them. "We found the world entirely new and neither of us realised it was there."

The film they saw was "'You can't take it with you," at the Gaumont Theatre, Haymarket.

Both the women, who live together, 30 miles from London, are surprisingly agile for their years—they are both over 70 years of age.

When they arrived at the theatre they did not seem to know what to do and surprised the attendant by their looks of astonishment and wonder. One of them told a Central News representative afterwards—"We were brought up rather strictly by a father who had very strong principles. We believe in women clothing themselves properly, and we were not prepared to go and see women, unless otherwise, on the films.

"Now we know that they do not dress in any way that is improper. "We decided to see the film on the spur of the moment," she added. "It was a complete world of its own. I am going again."

D.W.D. Whiskey for Christmas Festivities
0516

ITALY'S AFRICAN DEMANDS

ATTITUDE OF FRANCE

ONUS ON MUSSOLINI

WAITING FOR NEXT MOVE

(By arrangement with "Daily Telegraph.")

Following the denunciation announced by Italy of the Franco-Italian Agreement of 1935 both sides are apparently standing their ground, each waiting for the other to take the first step.

IT IS CONSIDERED IN FRANCE THAT THE INITIATIVE RESTS WITH ITALY. THE WHOLE OF THE FRENCH PRESS, AFTER ANALYSING THE POSITION, COMES TO THE CONCLUSION THAT UNTIL ITALY CHOOSES TO INDICATE EXACTLY WHAT HER DESIRES ARE SHE WILL FIND HERSELF IN A LESS SATISFACTORY POSITION THAN BEFORE.

M. JULES SAUERWEIN, WRITING IN "PARIS SOIR," STATES THAT IT WAS M. FRANCOIS-PONCET, THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN ROME, WHO FIRST RAISED THE ISSUE THREE WEEKS AGO BY ASKING COUNT CIANO, THE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, WHETHER IN HIS OPINION THE 1935 AGREEMENT STILL HELD GOOD.

COUNT CIANO'S REPLY.

To this inquiry M. Sauerwein affirms Count Ciano replied in courteous but somewhat juridical terms. He made two points—

First, the exchange of ratifications, though several times prepared, had never actually taken place.

Secondly, the world situation had changed since 1935, and the constitution of the Italian Empire had placed Italy in a new position.

For these two reasons Count Ciano concluded the Agreement could not be considered to be in force, since it lacked substance. It would, therefore, be better, he added, to seek a fresh basis of negotiation.

Apart from the shares in the Djibouti Railway, one of the most important problems which will once again be thrown open is that of the status of the 94,000 Italians who live in Tunis, side by side with 108,000 French and 2,315,000 native inhabitants.

NO TERRITORY CESSION.

Their position until the 1935 Agreement was an equivocal one and was based on the quarterly renewal of an agreement dating from 1896.

THE FACT THAT IN 1919 IT HAD BEEN REVOKED ON PRINCIPLE WAS TACITLY IGNORED IN THE ITALIAN FAVOUR.

NOT AN INCH APPROVED

The French Press without exception supports M. Bonnet's recent statement that he will not cede one inch of French territory to Italy. It is, therefore, believed that Signor Mussolini can hardly be preparing territorial demands, however much he may have tested the ground for making them during the last few weeks. France does, nevertheless, expect to be faced by Italian demands for a privileged status for the Italians in Tunis, for French support of Italy's claims to representation on the Board of the Suez Canal Co., and for a free zone at the very least in Djibouti Harbour, with corresponding privileges for Italian merchandise carried over the French-owned railway to Addis Ababa.

FRANCE'S GENEROSITY.

The "Temps" states that France, in signing the 1935 Treaty, went considerably beyond the obligation laid on her by the wartime pact of London, on which Italy still bases her claim.

In doing so, the writer says she was acting in a generous spirit for the sake of achieving a general solution of the questions outstanding between the two nations, in the hope of establishing a solid basis for trustful relationships.

By now refusing to recognise the 1935 Treaty, Italy, argues the "Temps," has returned to the earlier position, leaving France in possession of all her rights and restoring the full exercise of her sovereignty.

The writer points out that it does not lie with France to take any further action which must now come from the Italian side. Signor Mussolini himself, he adds, has recognised that all the African questions at issue between France and Italy have been settled.

ITALIAN ALLEGATIONS.

The Italian Government communique yesterday, to the effect that Count Ciano, the Italian Foreign Minister, addressed a letter to M. Francois-Poncet, the French Ambassador, declaring that Italy considered the Italo-French Agreement as null and void, is the first intimation given by the Italian Government as to the state of affairs which was made known in London and Paris some days back, states the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" Rome correspondent.

The inspired comments are interesting. They are made by the "Telegrafo" of Leghorn, which is closely connected with Count Ciano, and by Signor Gayda, who is chosen frequently to express the opinions of Signor Mussolini.

The "Telegrafo" reveals that the communication received by the French Ambassador from Count Ciano was long and detailed. It stated that when the Mussolini-Laval Agreement was signed in Rome on January 7, 1935, three questions were to be settled.

These were:—

Libya's southern frontier.

The position of Italians in Tunisia.

Colonial compensation due to Italy by virtue of Article 13 of the London Agreement of 1915.

CONCESSIONS INADEQUATE.

The article of the Secret Treaty referred to provided for Italy's right to claim equitable compensation in the Eritrean Somaliland and Libyan frontiers, if Britain and France increased their colonial territories in Africa at the expense of Germany.

The "Telegrafo" adds significantly that the concessions embodied in the 1935 Agreement were inadequate, and continues: "It has been forgotten that this agreement contained a counterpart for Italy's benefit, that is a free hand and France's support in the Abyssinian question. But everybody knows that the Quai d'Orsay failed to keep its word.

"France ranged herself at the head of the 52 Sanctionist States, scrupulously applied sanctions, sent arms, and allowed gun-running through Djibouti to Tafari and made Djibouti the centre of anti-Italian intrigues which are still hatching there to the detriment of our Empire."

The article concludes: "Italy is at Addis Ababa, in spite of France. The agreement, therefore, becomes null and void both by mental violence and by non-application of the letter of the Pact."

GAYDA ON SANCTIONS.

In the "Giornale d'Italia" Signor Gayda repeats arguments which have already been published abroad to the effect that France's part in sanctions constituted a "concrete form of warfare." Italo-French problems remain to be solved. The currents of Italy's vital interests now flow to Tunis, Djibouti and Suez.

Signor Gayda indignantly denies that Count Ciano withheld the Note to the French Government until the results of his recent visit to Budapest became clear. There is nothing in common, he states, between Italo-French relations and Italo-Hungarian relations. The Note was sent to M. Francois-Poncet on Saturday before Count Ciano went to Hungary.

RUGBY VISIT TO FRANCE BANNED.

PARIS, Friday.—The Italian Government, it was announced here to-night, has forbidden the visit to France of an Italian Rugby fifteen, so the match which had been arranged for Christmas Day between Italy and Perpignan has been abandoned.

A lot of local feeling had been aroused in the Perpignan district over the match in view of the fact that when a French football team recently visited Naples it was given a hostile reception.

As a counter-attraction to the Italy-Perpignan match another big Rugby match had been arranged in the district. —Central News.

MR. HORE-BELISHA IN FRANCE.

PARIS, Friday.—Mr. Hore-Belisha, the British Secretary of war, who is due to arrive here this evening by the Golden Arrow, will, it is stated, fly to-morrow to Strasbourg, where he will be the guest of M. Mathis, the well-known motor-car manufacturer, at the Villa, Kohwald.

Mr. Hore-Belisha is a close friend of M. Mathis, and will stay with him until January 3. The visit to France, it is emphasised here, is entirely a private one, but it is suggested that if the weather is favourable Mr. Hore-Belisha will visit and inspect the Maginot Line.

It is also announced here this evening that Colonel Beck, the Polish Foreign Minister, has left Warsaw for France. He will stay, as is his custom, on the Riviera, but it is understood that he will have an interview with M. Bonnet, the French Foreign Minister, in Paris.—Central News.

CRISIS IN NEXT TWO MONTHS

PARIS, Saturday.—Italy's action in denouncing the Mussolini-Laval agreement of 1935 was discussed by the French Cabinet to-day.

Mme. Tabouis, in an article in the "Œuvre," professes to know that under an agreement between Hitler and Mussolini Italy's aspirations are due for realisation between January and February.

"It is Germany," she says, "who is pressing Italy to move quickly, because in the spring she herself will be busy with other problems directly interesting her."

Other comments are:—

"Le Figaro" (Count Vladimir d'Ormesson)—"Italy knows, or ought to know, that if for one reason or another she took any action which aimed at the integrity of our possessions France would immediately rise up as one man against her and then she would see what a unanimous and free people are like."

"Le Petit Journal."—"Italy professes to place her case on legal grounds and so renounces the advantages which France generously accorded her. She should be reminded that she must thus renounce the vast area in North Africa which she was given under the agreements, as well as 2,500 shares in the Djibouti-Addis Abba Railway."

"L'Ordre" ("Pertinax").—"Although it may not be apparent, Mussolini's agression has already met with a pretty sever setback.

"When he gave orders for the demonstration in the Chamber he was expecting a general assault by Franco on Catalonia and the possible final defeat of the Republicans.

"But the Republican Spain upset his reckonings and once again she fought out battle.

"We should congratulate ourselves on this bad beginning."

"Action Francaise."—"If Mussolini is banking on mediation by Mr. Chamberlain between France and Italy he is heading for a big disappointment.

"Like every reasonable Englishman and Frenchman, Mr. Chamberlain seeks peace and good understanding with Italy, but unfortunately Italy makes impossible conditions that can never be accepted.

"And so the net result of the Duce's move will merely to have been to shake the position of those in Britain and France who were better disposed towards his country."—Reuter.

DESPERATE PLIGHT 7,000 GERMAN JEWS

IN NO MAN'S LAND.

MEMBER OF DAIL HELPING.

PLAN FOR MASS EMIGRATION.

WARSAW, Saturday.—The desperate plight of 7,000 Jews expelled from Germany who for nearly two months have suffered many hardships sheltering in barns and stables at Zbonszyn on the German-Polish frontier, is now engaging the attention of Mr. Robert Briscoe, a member of Dail Eireann.

He has had interviews with Colonel Joseph Beck, Polish Foreign Minister, and representatives of the newly-formed Jewish Colonisation Committee of Poland.

It is understood that he has in mind a scheme for financing the mass emigration of Jews from Poland.

Meanwhile he is occupied with a plan to collect money so that the 7,000 Jews from Germany at Zbonszyn can be transferred overseas.

Mr. Briscoe is believed to have put a proposition before the Polish Government under which Poland would supply a sum of money if a further sum was subscribed by Polish Jewry and by international Jewish organisation. Polish Jews have already subscribed a certain sum.—Reuter.

JEW PERSECUTION IN HUNGARY.

OCULIST SHOOTS HIMSELF.

LEFT MARKED NEWSPAPER.

The first Jewish suicide after the publication of the new anti-Semitic laws occurred yesterday, states the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" Budapest correspondent.

The well-known 56-year-old oculist, Prof. Leo Liebermann, a half Jew, shot himself.

On his writing desk a newspaper was found with the new anti-Semitic laws marked in pencil, and a letter to his wife saying that he could not bear suddenly to become a second-rate citizen of Hungary.

He was taken to hospital, but refused to be operated on, and died a few hours later.

GERMANY'S VEILED THREAT TO U.S.

RUPTURE POSSIBLE.

THE PUBLIC IN IGNORANCE

OF THE WASHINGTON REBUFF.

BERLIN, Saturday.—News of the German protest against the recent broadcast of Mr. Ickes and the American refusal to apologise, is still withheld from the general public, but the papers publish a statement by Senator Pittman, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the U.S. Senate, in which he said that the American people were opposed to any Communist or Fascist regime and that they did not esteem either Japan or Germany.

In identical comments, obviously inspired by a central authority, the papers reefer, although in a veiled form, to a possible rupture of diplomatic relations with the United States.

The "Berliner Tageblatt" says:—

"If the systematic campaign for a rupture of diplomatic relations between the two countries, which are not divided by any national differences, should be continued by the Jews and their anti-Fascist allies, and if this campaign should really find that the support of responsible American statesmen, the German answer will be forthcoming.

"With calm determination Nazi Germany will then decide her attitude towards agitation from the United States, and this answer will be in harmony with Germany's dignity and international importance."

The "Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" asks whether the American Government itself is also driving towards a diplomatic rupture, adding, "In such a case Germany's answer will not be lacking."

The "Boersen Zeitung" doubts whether the American people as a whole would give their consent to a rupture, but adds: —"In view of the susceptibility of the Americans for any kind of mass phsycosis such a possibitl must not be regarded as absolutely out of the question."

The "Voelkischer Beobachter" declares:—"We are convinced that responsible America is waging an open international fued against us, and we are also convinced that it does not serve America's interests but those of international Jewry."

The time will, however, come when the Americans will recognise this, and we shall do our bit towards this end.—Reuter.

UNCLE SAM RUNNING NO RISKS.

FLEET IN THE ATLANTIC

TO BE KEPT THERE PERMANENTLY.

WASHINGTON, Friday.—The United States naval authorities announced today that a permanent fighting force of the United States Fleet will be established in the Atlantic, effective from January 6.

The establishment of a permanent Atlantic Squadron is regarded here as particularly significant in view of the present state of international relations. The squadron will be composed of four battleships, eight cruisers, and 23 destroyers. The four battleships are the New York, the Texas, the Arkansas, and the Wyoming.

The last named battleship is in a demilitarised condition, having been stripped of its guns. The other three battleships are ready for service.—Exchange.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

The Strange Story Of An Xmas Game Of Bridge

By "ACE OF SPADES"

CHRISTMAS Eve is no time for a serious bridge article—certainly not. Strange things sometimes happen on Christmas Eve. Here is the story of one of these queer happenings.

It was Christmas Eve in a factor's cabin somewhere in the north of North America. There were three men sitting smoking at the fireside. One, a middle-aged man, was the factor. He had lived there all his life, at least, so he said. The other two were young men in their early twenties. This was their first experience of Christmas away from their homes in England. They had been pals since their schooldays and they were discussing the tragedy which had led to the breaking up of their homes.

"I'll never be able to understand what caused the trouble between your father and mine," said Bertie. "They were always such good friends. Why, they were actually playing bridge together on the evening it happened."

"I wish we could find those two men they were playing against," said Lionel. "I'm sure they could tell us a lot more than they told the police. Anyway we're here to find them, and, if we do, we'll find some way to make them talk."

"Do you know who they are?" asked the factor, "or what do you know about them?"

"A Row at the Table."

"We've got their names and we understand that they came from this part of the world," replied Lionel, "but nobody here seems to have heard the names before. We never saw them for we were on a hiking holiday on the continent at the time. The investigations were completed and the strangers had disappeared when we arrived home."

Bertie continued the tale: "They told the police that there was a row at the table and Lionel's father threw the decanter at my father. It struck him on the forehead and killed him. When Sir John realised what he had done he rang for the butler, and went into the library. When the butler arrived in the card room he found the other two attending to my father and was going over to help them when he heard a shot in the library. Sir John had shot himself. The butler confirmed their story of what had occurred and the only fingerprints on the broken decanter were those of the butler and Sir John. So far as the police were concerned there was nothing to implicate either of the strangers, who were perfectly consistent in their statements.

"So you never saw either of the men?"

"No, sir, we have nothing to go on but the descriptions given to us by the police."

"It's a strange story," said the factor, "but it will be stranger if you can find them in this god-forsaken country. I don't know of any person from these parts who has visited England in the past year or two. If they said they came from here your 'strangers' must have given false addresses."

"We aren't very hopeful," Lionel replied, "but my father was interested in furs, so it is just possible that they are fur dealers and may turn up here sometime."

"That's right," said the factor, "but you may have a long wait."

"We are prepared to wait," said Bertie, "however dull it may be, but I wish we could get a game of bridge to pass the time in the evenings.

The Game Begins.

"Oh that'll be alright," declared the factor, with enthusiasm, "There's a pal of mine lives near who'll be glad to make a fourth, I'm sure. I'll walk down to his place now and see if I can get him to come along this evening."

He returned in about half an hour with his friend and they got a card table and cards set out.

"How shall we play?" asked Bertie, "as partners or shall we cut?"

"We'd better play as partners for a rubber or two anyway," replied the factor, "so that we can get a chance to understand each other's bidding."

"That suits me," said Lionel. "What shall we play for?"

"Whatever you like," the factor returned, amicably. "We generally play for fairly low stakes, but since it is the festive season we might as well have a little flutter. What about ten dollars a hundred?"

"I'm afraid that's a bit stiff for me, even at Christmas," Bertie objected.

"Well then make it five dollars," said the fourth player, who had been introduced as "William."

"I'd rather make it two," Bertie replied.

"Rght you are," the factor agreed. "two it is."

10,000 In Arrears.

They started to play. After the first two rubbers, both of which the young men won, it was decided to continue the partnership for the rest of the evening. Then the cards started to run against the Englishmen in an astonishing manner. Nothing seemed to go right. Nearly every finesse went wrong. Many excellent contracts were defeated on rocks of distribution. The boys suffered several substantial penalties. Their tempers became somewhat frayed. Neither seemed to be able to do the right thing. Meanwhile the opponents scored rubber after rubber. The balance was mounting steadily. After four hours' play the visitors were about ten thousand points in arrears, and it was decided to play one last rubber before turning in for the night.

William dealt the cards as follows:—

	♠ A 8 5 4 ♥ x ♦ Q J 10 x x ♣ K x x	
♠ 7 6 ♥ K 10 x x x x ♦ K x ♣ x x	F. B. L. W.	♠ K Q J 10 9 ♥ x x ♦ x x x ♣ Q J 10
	♠ 3 ♥ A Q J x ♦ A x x ♣ A x x x x	

William bid "onc Club." Bertie bid "one Heart." The factor called "one Spade," and Lionel passed William now bid "one no trump," and after Bertie had passed, the factor called "two Diamonds." Lionel now called "two Spades," and William bid "three no trumps." After two passes, Lionel doubled this and the factor redoubled. Everybody passed and Bertie led the seven of Spades.

Lionel Went Livid.

Dummy played low and Lionel won the trick with the nine. He returned the ten of Spades, which William beat with the Ace in dummy. The Queen of Diamonds was led from dummy and finessed. Bertie won the trick and laid a Club to trick four. The declarer won this trick and cashed four tricks in Diamonds. A Heart was now led from dummy and the declarer finessed the Jack. Bertie won this trick and returned another Club. Lionel was raging. He went livid when the declarer claimed two Heart tricks and a Club trick for his contract conceding the last two tricks.

"Why didn't you lead me your last Spade when you were in?" he cried. "You had two chances to defeat that contract."

"I hadn't any more Spades," Bertie replied. "I had only two to start with."

"Of course you had another," screamed Lionel, "the 'two' was still to come, and there it is among your cards." He grasped the whisky bottle, which was at his elbow, and from which he had been helping himself somewhat too freely, and made as if to throw it at Bertie.

"My God! Don't do that," shouted William." It was after a similiar hand and for a similar reason that your father killed his father."

Look of Anguish.

Bertie had remained fairly cool. He had seen William push the two of Spades among his cards as he threw them on the table and he knew that he had never held that card. He saw the look of anguish and fear which flitted across the father's face when William spoke. He got up slowly, very slowly.

None of the neighbours could ever understand why the factor's cabin was wrecked that evening. Nor why neither he nor William would explain how they lost their right thumbs. Nor why the two nice young Englishmen left so suddenly on Christmas Day. But neither the factor nor William was ever able to deal cards again.

JACKIE HURST IN BELFAST.

SPIDER KELLY'S OPPONENT.

ANTICIPATES KEEN FIGHT.

Jackie Hurst, the young London featherweight, who opposes Spider Kelly (Derry), British and Empire champion, over ten rounds, at the King's Hall, Balmoral, on Monday evening, arrived in Belfast this morning, and during the forenoon formally reported to Mr. John Sholdis, the promoter, that he was fit and ready for the fray.

Hurst is accompanied by his manager, Mr. Ben Huntman (London), and this is their first visit to Belfast.

Chatting with Mr. Huntman shortly after their arrival, he told me (writes "The Timekeeper") that they had a pleasant crossing, and Hurst was in the finest possible fettle. He was looking forward with interest to his contest with Kelly, and Ulster fight fans could be assured that Hurst would be found well trained and all out to win.

Other cross-Channel boxers engaged at the tournament—Benny Jones, Johnny Jenkins, and Johnny M'Manus—are expected in Belfast to-morrow, so with all the local stars—Jimmy Warnock, Al Lyttle Charlie Brown, Tommy Armour, and Billy Smith—also reported fit and well, the promoter is in a happy position, and hopes intending patrons will secure the tickets desired, if possible, this evening, to avoid any unpleasant congestion at the ticket office, 22 Royal Avenue, which, as a matter of form, will be open from 10 a.m. on Monday.

The weigh-in takes place in St. Mary's Hall at two p.m. on Monday. Ticket holders are invited to be present.

ARMSTRONG AS HISTORY MAKER.

NEW YORK, Saturday.—Henry Armstrong, world lightweight and welterweight title holder, will create ring history when he meets Baby Arizmendi (Mexico) in a welterweight championship fight at Los Angeles on January 10.

Armstrong will be defending his title for the third time in six weeks—an unprecedented happening in boxing history.

"Homicide" Henry, known as "Perpetual Motion," defeated Ceferino Garcia on November 25 and Al Manfredo (Los Angeles) ten days later.—Press Association Foreign Special.

ODWELL'S FRENCH RIVAL.

PARIS, Saturday.—George Odwell, one of the best English welterweights, will meet Marcel Cerdan, the French champion, at that weight in London on January 9.

MAX BAER TO MEET NOVA IN MAY.

NEW YORK, Saturday.—The proposed fight between Lou Nova and Max Baer will be staged at New York some time in May, according to an announcement by Mike Jacobs, who will promote the contest. Earlier reports had given the date as February 24.

Nova, a 22-year-old Californian ex-footballer, has become one of America's most prominent fighters as a result of his convincing victory over Tommy Farr.

Baer, a former world heavyweight champion, has also obtained a victory over Farr this year—on points in March. Farr had previously beaten Baer on points in London in April, 1937.

D.W.D. Whiskey for merriment and joviality. 0516

MONTE CARLO RALLY

BRITAIN MAKING BIG BID.

FIVE CARS WITH WOMEN CREWS.

Great Britain is making the strongest bid of any nation for the Monte Carlo rally, the famous winter motoring trial, which involves four days and nights of continuous driving across Europe to the Riviera in the latter part of next month, writes the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" motoring correspondent.

Entries have not yet been finally closed, but the list received yesterday from Monte Carlo shows that out of a total of 116 crews entered then 36 were British, 28 Dutch, 26 French and only five German.

Five of the British cars will have women crews. Two of them are entered by Miss Amy Johnson and Miss Elsie Wisdom, and one of the latest entries is that of Mrs. "Morna Vaughan," which is the nom-de-guerre of a distinguished London surgeon.

Seven years ago Mrs. Vaughan was a rally heroine. She won the Ladies' Cup in spite of having spent over an hour on a mountain side in pouring rain, setting limbs by the light of her head-lamps, after an accident to a rival crew.

Many of the entrants are, as always, amateurs seeking enjoyment rather than prizes, but British firms are taking a greater interest in the contest than for many years past.

The rally begins on January 17 and all cars are due at Monte Carlo four days later.

CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

VICTORIA MAKE FINE START.

MELBOURNE, Saturday.—Four Australian bowlers who toured England last summer, including W. J. O'Reilly, failed to part Victoria's opening pair, K. E. Rigg and Ian Lee, before they had set up the century against New South Wales here to-day. Victoria were facing a total of 294. Victoria passed their opponents total with only two wickets down.

New South Wales (first innings)—294. Chipperfield 66; M'Cormick, five for 62.

VICTORIA—First innings.

K. E. Rigg b O'Reilly	84
I Lee c Barnes b Cheetham ...	121
R. Gregory lbw b White ...	71
A. L. Hassett not out	40
J. Ledward not out	13
Extras	19
Total (for 3 wickets)	348

—Press Assoc. Special.

BRADMAN NEARING ANOTHER 100.

ADELAIDE, Saturday.—Don Bradman is endeavouring to maintain his century-an-innings record for the present first-class season. In his first two innings he scored 118 and 143, and he is 83 not out for South Australia against Queensland in the Sheffield Shield match which began here to-day. South Australia are 53 ahead with eight wickets to fall.

C. L. Badcock followed up his 51 not out in the centenary match and 271 not out against New South Wales with innings of 79 not out. He thus has a first-class average of 401 for his first three innings of this season.

C. V. Grimmett, bowling as well as ever, took six for 33, and Queensland were all out for 131.

QUEENSLAND (first innings)—131 (C. G. Cook not out 34; C. V. Grimmett six for 33).

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (first innings)—184 for two wickets (D. G. Bradman not out 83, C. L. Badcock not out 79).—Press Association Special.

Drink to good health

A glass of Sandeman makes a fitting finish to a good meal. It aids digestion and gives a feeling of comfortabe well-being. If you haven't been giving yourself this treat, start now. Drink to your own good health in a glass of Sandeman, the "hall-mark" of quality for 148 years.

SANDEMAN PORT

OK-B

"The Captain," in the "Wide World Magazine,"

January, 1939, states:—

"Some time ago, you may remember, I described certain novel playing-cards designed to give increased privacy to one's hand. This is achieved by the use of small vertical lettering instead of the usual prominent corner numerals and initials. In addition, special designs for the main numerals and honour cards allow very wide margins, safeguarding the player against careless exposure. The idea is not only excellent, but is very cleverly carried out. The latest packs—one of which I have just inspected—contain further improvements; the pips are larger, the aces larger still, and the lettering particularly clear. A glance reveals the value of one's hand, yet it is protected against an opponent's scrutiny. You should try these new-type cards, which are a real revelation. The price is 2/-, or gilt-edged and boxed 2/6 per pack."

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BRITAIN'S BIG NEW LINERS.

30 VESSELS PLANNED.

ORDERS HELD BACK

PENDING GOVERNMENT AID.

Although the returns of British shipbuilding, which will be published in January, will show a very big drop in the amount of tonnage under construction as compared with twelve months ago, there is less pessimism in the industry than there was during the autumn, writes the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" shipping correspondent.

The change is due to the conviction that the Government is on the point of lending substantial aid to the shipyards on the lines to be recommended in the report of the Fact Finding Committee presided over by Lord Essendon. It is now common ground among shipbuilders that only a Government subsidy in some form or other can avert disaster.

The effects of this expected "whiff of oxygen" would be remarkable.

Many shipowners who have been holding back orders for replacement tonnage owing to the prevailing high prices—which are 50 per cent. above the level of 1936—would immediately place contracts for new liners and cargo vessels if they could secure favourable terms.

MODERNISATION DELAYED.

From conversations with owners I gather that they are willing to risk the uncertainties of the international situation and that only the abnormal cost of new ships is delaying the modernisation of their fleets.

The majority have so far resisted the temptation to place orders with Continental yards, which are able to undercut British firms by as much as 35 per cent.

I have been informed of at least 30 large vessels which would be ordered immediately if prices came down, as they would do if the Government undertook to help in bridging the gap between domestic and Continental shipbuilding costs.

Among the more important vessels for which orders will be placed if and when prices are reduced are:—

Two 25,000-ton express liners for the Canadian-Australasian services.

A 35,000-ton Cunard-White Star liner similar to the new Mauretania.

A Canadian-Pacific liner of the Empress of Britain type exceeding 40,000 tons, and

Several intermediate liners for the same company.

FOREIGN ORDER PROSPECT.

Further, a whole fleet of tramp ships would be built if owners could order them at economic prices. Consequently, it needs only the impetus of Government action to produce something like a boom in the shipbuilding industry.

Certain yards working on Admiralty contracts are assured of steady if limited employment for the next two or three years, and another large block of naval tonnage will, it is expected, be ordered under the 1939 construction programme.

There are, however, many yards which do not undertake Admiralty work, and these are desperately hard hit by the present slump in mercantile marine.

A number of foreign shipowners who were formerly good customers of ours have intimated that a return to competitive prices would encourage them to place important orders in Britain. This would wipe out the adverse trade balance that now for the first time on record exists in regard to shipbuilding.

QUEEN ELIZABETH CABIN DESIGN.

The first section of the passengers' quarters on "D" deck in the new 85,000-ton Cunard-White Star liner Queen Elizabeth was completed yesterday. To keep the design and layout of cabins and public rooms secret, all doors are locked, and ex-police officers patrol the corridors day and night.

Solid oak cabin doors are ornamented with lattice work, and the door handles are made of plastic material, the foundation of which is milk. Oak, sycamore, and figured walnut are included in the panel work for walls, while floors are covered with a cement compound for silencing.

Cabins are constructed with non-creaking joints, and asbestos blankets are built in the walls to prevent penetration of noise. Each room is equipped with K.K. electric switches for lighting, fire alarm, and to control temperature.

Fitting of the boilers is scheduled for completion in March.

KILLED ON EVE OF CHRISTMAS.

While crossing Glasgow Road, Robt. Mitchell (73), of Calder Street, Blantyre, Lanarkshire, early to-day was knocked down by a motor-car and died while being conveyed to Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

ROYAL AIR FORCE
VOLUNTEER RESERVE
Openings for Local Men

Candidates are now required for interesting clerical and special spare time duties at the R.A.F. Station stated below.

AGE LIMITS 38–50

Conditions of Service: Attestation for 5 years with possible re-engagement for further similar periods. Attendance for training on prescribed evenings. Travelling expenses, allowances for training and a bounty are payable during service. For particulars apply for Pamphlet 81, to:—

The Officer Commanding, Royal Air Force Station, Aldergrove, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland.

ICE SKATING.

WHEN ENGLISH CALLED 'MAD'

MADE CHAMPIONSHIP POSSIBLE.

There are some people who glory in the ice-cold weather—the small band of speed skaters, for example, who have been waiting anxiously for a chance to compete for various cups and championships on the Cambridge Fens.

Nearly every year they hope for the best, but more often than not the thaw sets in before they can get going on the ice. This week the ice at Lingay has been perfect, but the races had to be abandoned the other day because of too much snow, which recalls the time when in similar circumstances Englishmen made one of the first world championship races possible in Switzerland.

That was in 1898 at Davos. The day had been fixed, but the previous night a fierce snowstorm began, and a gang of sweepers was employed. The fall was so heavy, however, that they could not cope with it, and during the night an S O S was sent round to the hotels to ask visitors to assist the sweepers. Many of the French, Swiss, German, and Italian people were too comfortable to leave the hotels, but a band of Englishmen volunteered, and the "mad English," as the Continentals called them, worked all night and succeeded in getting the five-acre rink clear in time for the race, which it seemed certain at one time would have to be abandoned.

It was only with difficulty that a man could keep a small space of ice around him clear from the snow. P. Oestlund (Norway) won the race, and since that time the Norwegians have continued to be predominant.

Climatic conditions enable them to practice as much as they like, and year after year they turn out world champions, such as the present holder, Ballungrud.

Many people maintain that it will be impossible for English skaters ever to approach the standard of the Norwegians because they have so few opportunities due to the comparatively temperate climate. That may have been true when the only speedmen were to be found in the Fen district, but the coming of indoor ice rinks has produced from the towns a new class of speed skater, who is able to compete with the Fen men and beat them.

Two Englishmen, H. V. Tipper, a product of the indoor rinks, and J. Mott, competed in the world speed championships at Davos last winter and Tipper finished 18th out of a total of 28. The Norwegians were so interested by his performances, taking into consideration his minor experiences of outdoor skating, that their coach offered to train Tipper free of charge if he would visit Norway. Another English team easily beat the Dutch and Swiss, and Stakshud, a past champion, and Ballungrud, were very impressed by Leslie Oldfield, who is only thirteen.

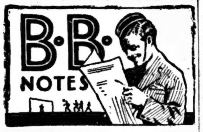
Speed skating, conducted by the National Skating Association, has been taking place in England since 1879, when the first professional championship was decided at Thorney Fen. The first amateur championship was held on the Welsh Harp at Hendon in 1880.

EXCELSIOR MALE CHOIR.

Belfast Excelsior Male Choir are to appear at their twentieth successive annual concert in the Y.M.C.A. Hall on Monday evening. In the programme are to participate Adelaide Beatty (soprano), Alice Morrow (contralto), Billy Brown with his accordion, Ruby Brown, the "tap" dancer, and Jimmy Steen, popular impersonator. The choir, under the direction of Mr. Wm. Boyd, will sing a number of well-known part songs and choruses. Preparatory to the concert Mr. Wm. A. Rea, A.R.C.M., will give a performance on the organ, and an opportunity will be given for community singing.

STAMPED NOTEPAPER AND ENVELOPES. Embossed, Plain, or in Colour. Dies at nominal prices.—W. & G. BAIRD, LTD., Royal Avenue, Belfast.

Gallaher's wish a Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year to all in Ulster!



CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

HAS BEEN VERY MUCH IN EVIDENCE.

SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

FOR COMPANY BIBLE CLASSES.

Once again we have come to the most wonderful time in all the year. What a difference the birth of a Baby Boy over 1900 years ago has made to the world. How many of us fully realise that even the Boys' Brigade and other young people's organisations would not exist had this wondrous birth not taken place. It was in the Christian Church that the Boys' Brigade was started '55 years ago, thus beginning the series of movements for boys and girls that are now so well known.

The great spirit of Christmas has been much in evidence lately, and those of us who visit Boys' Brigade House will agree that the Battalion Office has its full share. The demand for B.B. Christmas cards, almanacs, diaries, and Life Boy motto cards was—as the talkies say—colossal. Each year more and more people seem to give B.B. greetings and presents. This is a most satisfactory state of affairs, as it indicates not only increasing numbers, but also that the centre of our friendship is in the organisation which means so much to us.

It is good to hear the many stories of Christmas festivities both in companies and teams, and that everyone has been having such a splendid time. It is still better to hear of the concern shown for others and of how the Christmas of so many has been made much happier as the result of the efforts of B.B. boys under the direction of their officers, and of Life Boys under the direction of their leaders.

Company Bible Classes to-morrow morning will have a special significance, and will ensure Christmas being started in the right way. Surely nothing could be more fitting than to start Christmas Day with worship, so it is hoped every boy will make a special point of attending his company Bible Class to-morrow morning.

The Battalion President sends a very hearty Christmas greeting to every member of the organisation, from the most veteran of officers to the youngest Life Boy, and to all its many friends everywhere.

DRILL COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Battalion Drill Committee held recently arrangements were completed for the squad drill competitions. The eliminating rounds will be held on Wednesday evening, January 12, 1939, and squads will compete in the following order:—

Senior—27th, 41st A, 19th, 16th, 18th, 1st, 11th, 44th, 66th 41st B, 1st Portadown, 11th B, 15th B, 15th A, 8th, and 87th.

Junior—1st Bangor, 38th A, 34th A, 10th, 78th, 45th A, 60th, 1st Carrick, 45th B, 40th, 24th B, 22nd, 75th, 46th, 1st Donaghadee, 38th B, 3rd Bangor, 34th B, 6th, 77th, 29th B, 24th A, 53rd, 57th, and 29th A.

The B.B. has always taken an active interest in the work of the church overseas, and last session in our company Bible classes we raised over £2,700 to help this work. There are companies, however, which do not contribute to the B.B. Missionary Auxiliary of their own church. They should get in touch now with the secretary of their own church's Boys' Brigade Auxiliary. Every company should endeavour to devote at least part of its Bible class collection towards the extension of Christ's kingdom overseas.

COMPANY NEWS.

The 6th Belfast Company (St. James's Parish) have decided that for their Christmas goodturn the officers and boys would be asked to bring along parcels of groceries. As a result quite a large parcel was handed over to the church for distribution among the poor of the parish. Six boys represented the company at the festival in the City Hall grounds.

The 15th Belfast Company (Newington Presbyterian Church) are very proud of the accomplishments of many of their old boys, not only at home but across the seas The captain receives many letters which show a wonderful affection for the old company and its officers; and hearts are warmed and enthusiasm is renewed when such letters come from distant towns and far off lands recalling incidents of the old days. For the past week Christmas greetings have been pouring in to the captain from past and present members, which have greatly cheered and encouraged him. The writer of one letter from far off Australia, who has made good in that country, states that "he owes his success in life mainly to the training he received as a boy in the ranks of the 15th Belfast Company."

The Bible class to-morrow morning will take the form of a Christmas praise service, which will be conducted by Mr. Thomas Lowrey (church organist). A short address appropriate to the occasion will be given by the captain and an offering will be received in aid of a local Christmas cheer scheme for destitute boys

CHRISTMAS PARTY.

The 60th Belfast Company (Ballynafeigh Methodist Church) held a Christmas party on Thursday evening, instead of the usual drill parade. Although Santa Claus failed to put in an appearance, the officers and boys had a most enjoyable time. A splendid series of games kept the boys on tip-toe with excitement, and the cold of the outside world was forgotten. A surprise supper, with hot chips, was a pleasing interlude. It was one of the best evenings in the history of the company, and everyone went away with happy Christmas feelings. There will be special Christmas carols at the Bible Class on Sunday morning.

The 65th Belfast Company (Oldpark Road Methodist Church) are very grateful to the many friends who subscribed to the company's B.B. Week effort. It is pleasing to record an increase on last year's collection, and the company appreciates the interest and support of those who contributed. A signallers class has been formed in the company, and already proof of its popularity amongst the boys has been shown by the large attendance at same. The class is in the capable hands of Mr. J. M'Larnen (16th B.B. Company).

At the Bible Class last Sunday morning a welcome visitor was Mr. J. M'Kinstry (member of the B.B. Executive, and ex-Captain 65th Company), who gave a most interesting and instructive talk on "Self-control and How to Attain It." Occasion was taken towards the end of the class to present Mr. M'Kinstry with a B.B. officer's Bible from the officers and boys of the 65th Company.

The 77th Belfast Company (Ekenhead Presbyterian Church) are steadily making progress and have entered a team for the Battalion Junior Squad Competition, which it is hoped will come out winners. The monthly squad efficiency medal for last month was won by Squad No. 3 under Corporal Jack Angus, closely followed by Squad No. 1 under Sergt. Harold Wilson.

WITH THE LIFE BOYS.

The 15th Belfast Team (Newington Presbyterian Church) held their annual Christmas treat on Tuesday evening last. Tea having been served, a varied programme of competitive games was carried through, after which a cinematograph display depicting the antics of Charlie Chaplin and "Mickey Mouse" was thoroughly enjoyed. Occasion was taken during the evening to hand over to Mrs. Johnston (nee Miss Zena Kirkpatrick) a small token of appreciation on the occasion of her marriage and in recognition of her eight years' service as a Life Boy leader. The company capt., Mr. Joseph Millar, was present during the evening and spoke a few words to the boys. The arrangements were in charge of Mr. Oswald Rossborough (leader-in-charge), assisted by Messrs. John C. Adams, Norman M'Ilhenney, Fred Todd and James Raybould (leaders).

The 66th Belfast Team (St. Enoch's Presbyterian Church) held their annual Christmas social on Wednesday, and was presided over by the team chaplain, Rev. Gordon Young, B.A. Following tea a musical programme was presented, including selections by the Life Boy Percussion Band and carols. The following artists took part:—Mr. Edward Arnold, Mr. A. Wood, Mr. Smith, Mr. Saunders, and Mr. Mehard. At the close the leaders presented a little gift to each boy and a new penny by the team chaplain.

The 77th Belfast Team (Ekenhead Presbyterian Church) held a very enjoyable parents' night recently, when an interesting and varied programme was given, including a display of Life Boy activities. Miss Muriel M'Kibbin, the recently-appointed leader-in-charge was responsible for the arrangements. Rev. Hugh Jamison (team chaplain) spoke in appreciative terms of the work carried on by the leaders. Tea having been served, the meeting concluded. Later in the week the leaders entertained the boys to tea, after which a number of competitive games were carried through with much enthusiasm.

THE 44TH BELFAST LIFE BOYS.

The 44th Life Boy Team held a hearty Christmas social in Christ Church Schools. There was a large party to be catered for, and this was splendidly carried out by lady friends in the parish. Games, sing-song, competitions, and a short talk by Mr. J. Steen (church secretary) then followed, and later in the evening Father Christmas called amidst much excitement and expectancy. Prizes and Life Boy Christmas cards were given out by Mrs. A. J. Finch.

FASTEST R.A.F. 'PLANES.

PRODUCTION SPEED-UP.

SUCCESS OF MINISTRY'S POLICY.

Twenty-three firms are now assisting in the manufacture of supermarine Spitfire eight-gun fighters, which have a maximum speed of more than 355 m.p.h., and are the fastest military aircraft yet in service, writes Group Captain L. G. S. Payne in the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post."

The acceleration in the rate of production that has resulted affords a convincing proof of the success of the Air Ministry's policy of extending the system of sub-contracting. The output of Spitfires will be further increased when Lord Nuffield's new factory at Birmingham, which has been given an order for 1,000 of these machines, is in full operation.

Several R.A.F. fighter squadrons are now supplied with Spitfires. It is anticipated that a large number of squadrons will be so equipped during the early part of next year.

Despite the high performance of the Spitfire and Hurricane they are easy to handle when taking off and landing. In emergency either machine can be landed in a confined space "on its belly" with the retractable undercarriage raised and the landing flaps down.

The Spitfire prototype was deliberately landed in this way during its trials, and no serious injury to the main structure resulted. I recently saw a Hurricane that had sustained very little damage after a forced descent in a small field with the undercarriage raised.

UNUSUAL DEATHS.

CANADA REPORTS 6,000.

400 CHILDREN IN THE LIST.

OTTAWA, Saturday. — More than 6,000 people in Canada lost their lives through strange deaths during the past 12 months, according to a report published here by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

People died getting into bed, getting out of bed, getting into the bath, getting out of the bath, from insect bites, and from taking the wrong medicine.

Four hundred children under four years of age were killed by accidents. They fell into boiling water, wells, or open fireplaces or were given medicines supposed to be administered externally.

Older children also died through freak causes. A girl set her celluloid comb down on a stove after combing her hair and died in the ensuing blaze. A young boy, playing with a cigarette lighter, set his clothes on fire and died from the burns.

Another boy heeding his mother's call to dinner slid down the bannisters to death.

Men were more likely to be killed accidently than women, according to the report. At least two-thirds of the accidental deaths occurred to men.

Explosions claimed the lives of some, while others were shot by their friends when hunting.

A large number fell through ice into the rivers beneath, and several fell from high buildings while cleaning the windows.—Reuter.

ACTION BY THE CZECHS.

JEWISH PROFESSORS DISMISSED.

PRAGUE, Friday.—All Jewish professors at German language schools in Czecho-Slovakia have been dismissed by the Prague Government.—Reuter.

HAD GOLDEN WEDDING.

CLERIC TO MARRY AGAIN.

The forthcoming marriage of Dr. Geikie-Cobb, rector of St. Ethelburga's, Bishopsgate, London, to Miss Elizabeth Smart Colquhoun, will take place at St. Ethelburga's on January 21.

Dr. Geikie-Cobb is 81, and has been rector of St. Ethelburga's for nearly 40 years.

His first wife died in 1936, a year after the celebration of their golden wedding.

Miss Colquhoun has been headmistress of the Gables School for Girls, West Byfleet, Surrey.

Dr. Geikie-Cobb is an ardent advocate of divorce law reform.

HAUL BY PARIS BANDITS.

BANK MONEY SEIZED FROM CAB.

PARIS, Friday.—Motor-car bandits staged another daring daylight hold-up in Paris to-day.

This time the scene of operations was in the working-class district of Aubervilliers, where two men in a motor-car got away with over a million francs.

Apparently two employes of the Credit Lyonnais, a bank in Aubervilliers, hailed a taxicab to take the money to a factory at La Corneuvre, another suburb. They were followed by the men in the motor-car, which at a prearranged spot suddenly turned round in front of the cab and forced it to stop.

The two occupants jumped out and, with revolvers in hand, opened the door of the cab and seized the money, which was in bags. The two employes resisted, but one was shot in the arm and the other was unable to use his revolver in time.

At the same time the taxicab driver got out of his seat and shouted for help, and then as he saw the car drive away he jumped into his seat again and gave chase. There was an exciting chase through many streets and the taximan picked up a policeman at Pantin, but just as the cab was drawing close to the car a lorry got in the way and they lost track of the bandits.—Central News.

MONKEYS RUN WILD ON LINER

WHEN ZOO CARGO ESCAPES.

SPAT DEFIANCE AT SAILORS.

SYDNEY (N.S.W.), Saturday. — Grey invaders—20 small chattering monkeys—raided the liner Nieuw Holland on the way from Singapore to Sydney, spat defiance at the native sailors, climbed the masts, terrified Chinese members of the crew, and for a few hours created turmoil before they were recaptured.

The Nieuw Holland picked up 32 small monkeys at Singapore for the Melbourne Zoo. They were housed in three wooden cages in the after-section of the liner.

Nobody knows how the door of one of the cages was opened, but when the liner was at sea little monkeys skipped and leap-trogged along the deck.

A few Chinese members of the crew looked wildly at them, ran for their bunks, and would not emerge until the majority of the monkeys had been replaced in the cage.

Bananas were the best bait, but one animal held out for the best part of a day. He climbed the foremast and was coaxed and cajoled in vain. The sailors chased him as far up the mast as they felt it was safe to go. When they retired he came down to the cross-tree and chattered to them.

For hours this advance and retreat went on. Several sailors who grew tired were replaced. At last hunger beat the little fellow. He nibbled at a banana and was caught.—Reuter.

BUG PEST IN KENYA.

PARASITES TO DESTROY THEM.

NAIROBI, Friday.—Over 1,000 parasites were released on a coffee plantation in the Thika district of Kenya. They had been bred at the Scott Laboratories from stock originally procured in Uganda, wires the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" correspondent.

Their purpose is to destroy the mealy bug pest which for 15 years has been ravaging coffee plantations. It is estimated that the damage to crops and the cost of anti-mealy bug measures has been in the neighbourhood of £100,000 a year.

A search was made over a large part of the world, particularly in the East, for a parasite which would destroy the pest, but it was not until this year that it was found in the adjoining country.

Several thousand parasites were imported from Uganda and bred at the laboratory in cages. They are now being produced at the rate of about 500 a day.

R.A.F. XMAS CELEBRATIONS.

60,000 HOME ON LEAVE.

Arrangements have been made for nearly 60,000 officers and men of the Royal Air Force at home stations to spend Christmas with their families.

The number of officers and men retained for duty over the Christmas holiday has been kept to the minimum required for the maintenance of essential services, such as those of duty pilots, airmen of the watch, fire pickets, guards, telephone operators, and signals staff.

Those who have to remain on duty are given compensating leave, and everything is done to make their leisure hours on the station conform to the festive atmosphere elsewhere.

Most of the home stations give a children's party with a special cinema performance where facilities are available.

At Christmas dinner an old custom of the Service is usually observed. Officers warrant officers, and senior N.C.O.'s wait upon men of other ranks. Free issues of beer and non-alcoholic drinks are served in all messes on Christmas Day.

There is a more elaborate corporate observance of Christmas festivities at Royal Air Force stations abroad, as the majority of officers and men are in camp. The warmth of the weather in stations of the Middle East and Far East commands does not detract from the enthusiasm of the celebrations.

GOSSIP FROM PRESS.

CHRISTMAS IN "JOBURG."

MISTLETOE THRIVES ON RAND.

LONDON, Saturday.

The M.C.C. team who begin their first Test Match against South Africa to-day, will find Johannesburg, despite its dry heat, festive with Christmas symbols. Mistletoe thrives in the Rand's magic soil, hot plum puddings are served and eaten in shirt sleeves, miners' compounds and country clubs have their crackers. A friend yesterday was recalling two Christmas days, separated by nearly a quarter of a century, that he spent in the Transvaal. On the first, in 1910, in a temperature of over 90, he played lawn tennis with Lord Methuen, the Commander-in-Chief, in his garden at Headquarters House, Pretoria. Afterwards Lady Methuen provided a Christmas menu exactly similar by the strictest injunction to the home pattern. On Christmas Day, 1933, he heard King George V's broadcast in a private house in Johannesburg. By way of reply the children present sang the National Anthem through a microphone, which in their imagination was connected with Sandringham.—"Peterborough," in the "Daily Telegrauh and Morning Post."

NO CARDS FROM G.B.S.

I spoke to Mr. Bernard Shaw last night, and he told me that he had never sent any Christmas cards, and did not intend ever breaking this rule. He is holiaying in his country house at Ayot, Hertfordshire. He has been working on a new play lately, a social comedy of the nineties,, entirely non-political and only good fun, as he told me. But there are other famous people who like to send their own picture with their Christmas card. I received one from Mr. Richard Tauber, the singer. He is pictured as a wandering minstrel, in a troubadour's costume, resting at a signpost pointing in the direction of America, where he is going soon. His wife, Diana Napier Tauber, sits next to him on a suitcase accompanying his song on a guitar.—"X," in the "Daily Sketch."

YE OLDE GAME.

One game, on which Whitehall is concentrating over ye olde festive season, is to reconcile ye famous assertion of ye olde Lorde Chancellour that ye German Air Force could drop 3,000 tons of bombs on London in a day with ye claim of Sir Thomas Inskip that Great Britain has ye best anti-aircraft defences in ye world. The easiest way out, I think, is to refuse to believe that either ye olde Lorde Chancellour or Sir Thomas Inskip exists. Which reminds me of ye good olde story of ye ostriches. . . . As I was saying, two ostriches were walking across the desert talking of this and that, when they heard rapid footsteps behind them. Suspecting danger, they stopped at once and buried their heads in the sand. A few seconds later a third ostrich, to whom the rapid footsteps belonged, overtook them and went on his way looking extremely puzzled. "Extraordinary," he murmured, "most extraordinary. I could have sworn I saw a couple of ostriches."—"The Showman," in the "Daily Herald"

U.S. COMMERCE SECRETARY.

MR HARRY HOPKINS APPOINTED.

NEW YORK, Friday.—Mr. Harry Hopkins, Federal relief administrator, has been appointed Secretary of Commerce in the place of Mr. Daniel Roper, who resigned a week ago.

Mr. Hopkins is a strong supporter of President Roosevelt's New Deal policy. Born in Iowa in 1890, he began his career as supervisor of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, and he has since made social welfare his work. He was appointed Federal Administrator of Emergency Relief in 1933 and Works Progress Administrator in 1935.—Central News.

INQUIRY INTO FIRE-RAISING.

ENGLISH OUTBREAKS.

LIKELY SEQUEL NEXT MONTH.

Two months' secret inquiries by Scotland Yard detectives in parts of Essex and Kent regarding the activities of alleged fire-raisers are likely to have a sequel in the New Year, states a "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" representative.

Chief Inspector L. Burt has been working in conjunction with Mr. William Crocker, the solicitor, who played a big part in bringing to justice Leopold Harris and some of his associates. The inspector has just returned to London, and his report will be submitted to the Director of Public Prosecutions directly after Christmas.

The inquiries concerned two mysterious country house fires near Chelmsford in February and March, 1937. After prolonged investigations the Essex police were faced with many difficulties, and called in the aid of Scotland Yard.

Only senior officers of the provincial police forces immediately concerned were aware that Scotland Yard officers were in their districts.

I understand that remarkable disclosures will be made when the matter becomes public.

SIAMESE TWINS BORN.

THE FIRST IN MEXICO.

MEXICO CITY, Friday.—Girl Siamese Twins, believed to be the first born in Mexico, have been born to the wife of a former Mexican soldier at Ometepec, in the State of Guerrero.

The mother, children, and her husband, including children by other marriages, has had 60 children, of whom 45 are living.—Exchange.

DOMESTIC A.R. SHELTERS.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION.

The Home Office have issued a description of the type of domestic air raid shelter referred to in Parliament by Sir John Anderson.

The shelter is in effect a steel arch of strong corrugated sheeting six feet high by four feet six inches wide.

The unit shelter is six feet long and will be partly sunk below ground level, the excavated earth being used to cover the shelter. It is recommended that one end of the shelter be placed close to a wall of the house, the other end being enclosed in a manner which will provide an emergency exit. The entry to the shelter will be through the end near the house.

Severe tests have been carried out on the sheet steel arches without earth covering and heavy weights and loads up to half a ton have been dropped from appreciable heights.

These tests have demonstrated that the shelters are strong enough to resist the fall of debris which may be expected from small dwelling houses.

These shelters will be considerably strengthened by the end pieces which will form part of the structure.

The heaviest member of the shelter weighs about 60lbs., and can be easily handled and erected by two men without technical skill.

The several parts of the structure can be easily stopped, the curved sheets nesting one into the other.

NICHOLL'S
MAYHATINE BLOOD PILLS.

Rebuild the whole system by making good rich blood. Under their use you quickly lose the weakness, breathlessness, palpitation, low spirits, and the pale, sickly complexion caused by anæmia, and become robust and strong. Invaluable to sufferers of all ages. Boxes—3 doz., 1s 3d; 9 doz., 3s; 18 doz., 5s; per post, 1s 4½d. 3s 2d, 5s 2½d. Sold only by I. W. NICHOLL, LTD., Pharmaceutical Chemists, 25 High Street, Belfast. (6)

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Belfast Telegraph

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1938

CHRISTMAS EVE.

FOR the majority of people Christmas is the festival of home. It is the time when the average citizen and his family desire to be together, in spite of what is called "the hotel habit." The happiest way of spending the day is in the company of one's kindred and friends, over the glowing hearth and the festive family board. If there are little children in the group the picture is almost complete. A Christmas which falls at a week-end has a few disadvantages, but the fortunate conjunction of three successive days appointed as holidays, which happens this year, makes it possible for distant exiles to get home. The trains and buses this evening are laden with people, young and old, on their way to enjoy the holiday season in happy companionship at home. Young folk who have spent the year in city shops or offices, and have lived in city lodgings, are off to the home of their childhood, probably away in the country; while, on the other hand, travellers of various sorts who have been on their journeys in the provincial counties are hasting home, laden not only with their sample cases but with other unwonted parcels. The sailor on the sea has been counting up miles and hours and tides in anxious hope that he may make port in time to allow him to have his Christmas dinner at home. The Yule log is not capable of being used in modern homes, nor is it possible to have a whole ox roasted for a feast. Nor do we have the rough old sports of bear-baiting, cock-fighting, and the like. The changes that have taken place in the celebration of Christmas in the past four or five centuries may be summed up, perhaps, by saying that from being a public feast it has become domestic. Christmas has come indoors. One might hazard that the main streets of a great city like Belfast are quieter on Christmas afternoon than at any other hour in the year. The fun is all indoors, and properly so. The credit for this change is usually given to Charles Dickens. He showed how the festal occasion was spent at Dingley Dell, with jolly Mr. Wardle and the "fat boy." He gave us the Christmas of "A Christmas Carol." A great number of people cannot at this time enjoy this happy festive day. Nor is the spirit of peace and goodwill so widespread as ought to be. The world is full of confusion, chaos, and strife. Life is being sacrificed cruelly in China and in Spain. War clouds hang over half of the Continent of Europe. In these home lands there is a vast mass of poverty and unemployment. It is difficult to rejoice in the simple festivals of home, when one remembers what is happening all around. There is evil in the world; it is far too evident. But courageous love is the best weapon against wrath and fear; the rejoicing heart is the heart that contributes most to the betterment of humanity. And there is nothing that the poor world stands more in need of than the happy, trustful, child-like spirit. Many, many years ago on the first Christmas Day the Creator gave to this world the most precious gift ever given. The passing years have not cancelled that gift. The Christ Child born in Bethlehem is with us still. Some day men will turn to Him as the sole hope of humanity. To Him the world gives its acknowledgments at Christmastide. There is something of pessimism, even of sheer, stark paganism, in the spirit which refuses to hope and trust and pray. One thing else we may all do, namely, help the poorer, weaker, less privileged folk around us in some way to enjoy this festive season. The spirit of generosity and open-handedness is the spirit which itself rejoices, and brings joy to all around.

FASCINATING FACTS
by GORDON COOPER

Where Are The Motor-Cars?

COUNTRY	NUMBER
U.S.A.	29,654,847
Great Britain	3,000,000
France	2,200,000
Germany	1,521,277
Canada	1,306,385
Soviet Russia	580,000
Italy	450,000
Belgium	212,946
Sweden	186,432
Netherlands	143,836
Switzerland	92,143
Northern Ireland	40,036
Poland	34,324
Roumania	26,500
Turkey	9,484
Latvia	6,180
Bulgaria	4,214
Iceland	2,000
Gibraltar	1,152

A WINTRY ULSTER COUNTRY SCENE.

Christmas amid the snow is, to the animals of the wild, just another period of hard living and scarcity of food.

For the Animals of the Wild

CHRISTMAS SPELLS NATURE at its RAWEST

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Huddled from the bitter winds and frost are shivering bodies, crouching, creeping, sleeping, eating. Death lurks around the corner for the wild animal at Yuletide, to humans a period of gaiety and fun. But squander no pity on the creatures of the wild; they do not need it, says this seasonable article.

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WINTER is a terrible time for the creatures of the wild; it is the time of the insufficiency of food which is needed to keep the body warm. How are these animals of the wild spending Christmas?

Life pivots on the forces of hunger and love. It would be racial suicide for a mammal to bring into the world in winter offspring, which in the early months of its life demands about twice as much food as its parent. Therefore, it is not practical to reproduce in the season of little food, a season when animals live in fear and trembling, when animals and plants are resting and preparing themselves for the ultimate aim of any organism—that of reproduction in the season of food.

Food means heat, it means that they live dangerously, it means that the otter will swim far down under the ice in search of prey to keep his muscles going, it means that the fox will face man and fight him, it means that the pike will jump on to the river's bank after a moorhen in its trembling urge to get food, and it means that the stoat will ravage more violently than ever paralysed ranks of rabbits. All are living faster, harder, cleverer than in the season of abundance, to feed their muscles.

In Northern Scotland, the stoat, blue hare and ptarmigan change to a covering of white in winter. This, of course, is largely protective against a white background of snow, yet the mountain hare comes down from the snow-covered peaks to the valleys where it is a conspicuous white object.

I think the greater significance of the white pelt in winter is that for a warm-blooded animal in cold surroundings a white dress is the most economical. It conserves animal heat more effectively than a similar dress of another colour.

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THERE are many different tactics employed by the animals of the wild to combat a common enemy—winter. It is the time when they are lying low—all are living from hand to mouth, their eyes reflect the urgent necessity for food; they must eat or be eaten; they have no choice and only the finest will survive to see the flowers appear again, hear the challenging cries of nesting birds and feel the sweet scent of growing grass.

What a contrast to the hard living of the fox and otter is the lethargy into which a few animals sink to defeat winter. Those animals which are mostly insect-eaters, have either to change over to another diet, depart to another insect-filled area, or do without food. This last is called hibernation and is an adaption of nature to overcome the rigours of winter and no food.

It is part of the struggle for existence, so they sink back into a peculiar state, very unlike normal sleep, with most of the vital functions (even excretion) in abeyance in which the heart beats but feebly. In the frog and toad the nostrils and eyes are sealed up and breathing takes place through the pores in the skin.

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EARTHWORMS burrow to a greater depth in hard weather, and the young queen bee—the only survivor of a large summer household—lies hunched up and deeply hidden in a mossy bank, but insects, as a whole, are in a state of collapse in winter. The bats, which depend on them for food, sleep suspended from beam or wall of a cave, knowing nothing of what is happening to the world outside and caring less.

This lapse into reptilian cold-bloodedness (for mammals are evolved from an extinct reptile stock) would soon be fatal in the open if it were not linked to the instinct to seek out a sheltered spot where the temperature soon rises above that outside, and is warm enough to keep the blood of the winter sleeper from freezing. But if there is a period of bright sunshine, a few butterflies will wake up and fly about. These are sometimes called "editorial butterflies," because people send letters to the Press about that time calling attention to these "early harbingers of spring."

There are dangers, of course, in this idea of hibernation, the fire of life may burn so low that some wild winter's storm blows it out altogether, or the winter may not be cold enough, and bats cannot reach that state of "blissful sleep" which knows no hunger, and so they use up their heat hawking after scarce winter insects. They soon perish.

Another way to evade winter's severity is the solution by migration—conquering the winter by evading it. The most popular examples are the true insect-eating birds, which travel great distances to overcome the necessity to change to a new diet. The migration of some birds of prey is thus made necessary. Their food, starlings and the like, migrate to a milder clime in winter; the short-eared owl is left without any other choice. The ground is covered with frosts and snow, therefore it is a necessity that it should migrate to follow its prey.

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NOW, these birds that remain with us throughout the dead season have to eke out a precarious existence on what they can find, so they form flocks. The advantages of the flocking system are obvious—the more eyes the more food and the less chance of any unforseen danger; the disadvantages are equally obvious, a flock would draw attention where a pair of birds would escape observation, but the system is advantageous to the species concerned or they would not flock.

In spring the chaffinch stakes out his territory—he has to provide food for himself, his wife and the babies, when they come; so to guarantee the food supply he claims a bit of land as his own, and woe betide any chaffinch that infringes his property rights. In winter the holding of such territory is not profitable, it becomes common ground and the chaffinches unite in flocks. Rooks, herons, gulls and birds of strong flight find it an advantage to flock even in summer.

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SO you sit with a paper cap on your head and good things around you, for it is Christmas, but for the animals of the wild it is not. It is just another period of hard living and scarcity of food. They are huddled, sheltering from the wind, eyes strained with lack of food, and never knowing when death will strike. But soon, slowly at first, will be heard a murmur of tiny wings, growing louder, and the migrants return, and with them the season of plenty.

Yet do not squander pity on them—they do not want it—pity yourself with your paper hat, because though you have the means to be happy, you have among you the canker of greed and suffering which does not exist in the wild.

C. D. DEANE.

THOUGHTS FOR THE TIMES by DR. A. D. BELDEN.

This Festival Of Peace

IT is very significant that the appeal of Christmas can be summed up in the phrase of the angels' song, "Peace on Earth, Goodwill to Men." Christmas is supremely the festival of Peace, because it speaks the goodwill of God to all men and hence binds them to one another by means of that same goodwill.

The Christmas birth stories show this goodwill flowing over the barriers of class and nationality. The Highest who ever came to earth was born in a stable, and lowly shepherds from the fields joined with learned men from the ends of the earth to do Him honour.

The only note of enmity in the whole story comes from the militarist, the blood-thirsty Herod, and the only note of neglect from the snobbish money-grabbing inn-keeper. The lowly and the wise of the world have always been the strength of the Holy Cause and commercial greed and ruthless tyranny the typical oppositions.

All over the world humanity of all kinds, doubtless even the most hardened, will turn wistfully to this ancient scene whose message is still so modern. If only we could translate all that momentary and seasonal feeling into a vast united determination, what a difference it would make!

It would help very much towards this if we realised how artificially limited are the areas over which we commonly exercise this goodwill, and how definitely the first Christmas occurred to provide us with the power of carrying it, at any and every cost, into those other areas that seem at first sight so alien.

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Thus the Incarnation of God in Christ brought the Heavenly Love, passionately ready for every sacrifice, into our sinful human world, and in that mighty originating Love, with its limitless forgiveness and its everlasting mercy, man has discovered the power, the incentive, the joy of loving all, even the worst of his fellow-men.

Goodwill is abroad in the earth and though its conquest is delayed and hindered, its empire to-day is vaster than ever it was, its banners still move forward, its ultimate victory is assured. When we consider what this Babe of Bethlehem has already done, that He is as Jean Richter has described Him to be, "the Mightiest among the Holy, and the Holiest among the Mighty, Who has lifted empires off their hinges and turned nations from their courses," we have no right to despair of His conquest of the modern world.

How deeply men have felt this call to peace at Christmas is demonstrated nowhere more dramatically than in those episodes of war where so often the troops on either side have broken all discipline on Christmas Day and boldly and happily fraternised with one another. This kind of thing occurred in the American Civil War, one of the bitterest ever fought; it occurred in the South African War, and was repeated more than once during the Great War.

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In the latter case troops in the front line trenches streamed from both sides into No-Man's Land and exchanged Christmas greetings and cigarettes and food and drink, and generally agreed what fools they were to be at war with each other. A gleam of sanity amid the colossal madness.

How strange that men should see so clearly for so brief a while and then dully sink back into the convention of hate thrust upon them by their political traditions. Christianity is not true merely at Christmas time, it is not to be reduced to a fairy tale of Santa Claus, an annual spasm of charity.

It is the sworn implacable foe of war and of all enmities between man and man and the heavens bend themselves to the earth in angelic benediction upon its cause. "The Son of God goes forth to war" **against war,** but how strange a warrior.

"They all were looking for a king
To slay their foes, and lift them high.
He came, a little baby thing
That made a woman cry."

His weapons are not the clumsy talons of the world, imitative of the jungle and destructive only of the body. They are the purer and more beneficient weapons of the Light of Truth and Love with its converting power and they have dominion over both body and soul. "The Day-spring from on high has visited us to guide our feet into the way of peace."

In the Furthest Corners of the Globe the Postman Is the Real Santa Claus

Around Christmastide in Iceland, Holland, Switzerland, Canada's far north, the outposts of the Empire, and amid the wastes of the Pacific, the mail men sometimes have to employ odd methods to bring their precious parcels and letters safely to their destination. In this article J. Carver describes the postmen who run, ski, skate, and swim their delivery rounds.

IN every part of the world the most welcome visitor at Christmas is the postman. He might be called the real Father Christmas, for he brings news of home to pioneers of Empire thousands of miles from the "Old Country," some of them on islands no more than dots in the vastnesses of the ocean, yet which are nerve centres of the Empire's cable systems; others sweltering in tropic forests, or shivering beneath the icy blast of an Arctic blizzard in Canada's Far North.

Often letters and parcels, and tinned Christmas puddings, have to travel over high mountains, through jungles and swamps and across crocodile-infested rivers, but the postman does not fail. The job of the mail-man in such widely separated Empire countries as India and Canada, Africa and Australia provides striking contrasts.

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IN the tropics the task of carrying the mail is generally deputed to native runners, who frequently have to travel hundreds of miles up-country to the homes of missionaries, forest officers, and lonely traders.

The task is by no means an enviable one, although the "Boys," as they are called, often set up remarkable records for speed, travelling over the roughest ground barefoot.

Sometimes rather laughable incidents occur, as when one Christmas mail-man in Africa found himself beset by a number of wild ostriches. As these birds can travel at a pace equal to a fast trotting horse the postman, despite his good turn of speed, seemed discretion the better part of valour. So he beat a hasty retreat up a convenient tree, where the foolish birds besieged him till night-fall. Only then was he able to descend from his perch.

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AT the isolated stock stations in Australia, of course, the weather is usually sweltering, and the chief worry is about rain. Often the storm breaks around Christmas time, but whatever happens, for just a day cares are cast aside and festivity is the watchword.

Miles away a train rumbles into the terminus, and the mail-van jolts into the sweltering night, rough-riding over scarcely discernible tracks or floundering axle deep in dust. Mosquitoes, dust, the thermometer soaring to 110 degrees in the shade, maybe flooded creeks if the rain comes soon enough—but despite them all the mail-men never fail to arrive in time for Christmas Day.

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AWAY in Canada's white silence, at the lonely outposts of the Hudson Bay Company and its fur trappers, in the great forests where the loggers are at work, and in the tiny settlements facing the Arctic, Christmas is kept up in the traditional manner. How eagerly the mail is looked for there—it arrives some time between Christmas and the New Year.

A few lucky spots such as Aklavik, the air port at the mouth of the Mackenzie, may be lucky enough to get their mail by 'plane, but even then the machine may be held up for days by a blizzard.

But even now most of the mail goes by dog sledge, carried through piling ice, blizzards and great snow drifts. At Aklavik, the mail for Herschel Island, 200 miles further on, is collected by the Canadian Mounted Police. Half-a-dozen dogs are harnessed to the narrow sledges covered with furs and with tarpaulin protection from the weather.

The postman's task in New Zealand in the isolated outposts, is no sinecure. In the far south-west of South Island, the mail men make a fortnightly journey with their loads from the settlement of Weheka to the very fringe of the opened-up country at Okuru, a distance of practically a hundred miles. Lack of bridges adds greatly to the difficulty of transport. To cross some of the rivers that flow from the lofty Southern Alps the men load the mail and saddles into a boat and row across, their horses swimming behind.

In a good many countries, as a matter of fact, the postman's work is nothing so simple as in Britain. In South America he often has long journeys to undertake over the frozen passes, and so he travels on skis. The postman carrying the Christmas mail to the famous St. Bernard Hospice in the Alps, takes from two to three hours to reach his destination on skis, but he gets down again in from a quarter of an hour to twenty minutes.

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SOME of the world's most picturesque Yuletide postmen are to be seen in Iceland, where the festival is kept up with great gusto. The postmen use sturdy little ponies, covered with shaggy coats, and the Christmas mail is loaded on to them. They are very sure-footed, and need to be, for there are few roads outside the capital Reyjavik, and the tracks are extremely rough and rocky.

The Christmas postman's round is not unattended by dangers even in countries so near home as Germany and Poland. In parts of Germany the postman has to do his rounds on skates, for the land is marshy, and in winter the canals, which are used instead of roads, are frozen. In Eastern Germany, Poland and Russia the postman has to protect himself against the onslaughts of wolves, and in the first-named country, a large dog, often an Alsatian, is taken for protection.

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THE water postman of the Netherlands are very picturesque. Rowing-boats, sailing-boats, as well as motor-launches, are in use. In the Frisian lake district, where many farm houses are built on islands and in the polders round the Kager broads, the postman makes his way by boat from house to house. The same picturesque mode of delivery is employed in the "Biesbosch," an extensive network of channels and creeks, formed by inundation, between the provinces Noord Brabant and Zuid Holland. The "Water Post" also delivers the mail to ships in Rotterdam Harbour, and usually the letters are hauled up in a bucket.

Far away in the vast Pacific there are "water" postmen of another kind. Certain lonely British planters will be very lucky if they get their Christmas mail sharp on time. In some cases a steamer only calls once a month or six weeks—and others only see one once every three months.

Several islands are surrounded by coral reefs, so that a steamer cannot get close. In such cases the native postmen swim out, and the letters are dropped overboard in water-tight tins.

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ON THIS PAGE ON TUESDAY:

"THE LAST OF THE BUSHRANGERS."

J. Harris Rea, F.R.S.A., tells the strange story of the Kelly Gang, Australia's worst gangsters of the bush, and its Ulster connections.

London Day By Day

When City "Receives" the King
Royal Respect for Tradition.

LONDON, Saturday.

King George VI.

YOU may have noticed that the King and Queen departed from King's Cross for Sandringham. To-day the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke and Duchess of Kent joined the party at Sandringham House but they left for Norfolk from Liverpool Street.

This may appear a trivial distinction, but there is a reason for it which has its roots in history. In theory, whenever the Sovereign visits the City he is received by the Lord Mayor at Temple Bar, the boundary between the City of London and the City of Westminster.

The King is given permission by the Chief Magistrate to enter the City, a centuries old survival of the days when the City and Crown were perpetually at loggerheads. The rite is in modern practice now observed only on occasions when his Majesty goes to the City in State.

King Edward VII., however, had a deep respect for tradition, and rarely crossed the City boundary without the ancient ceremony being observed. It was he who decreed that in going to and from Sandringham it was best for the Sovereign to use a station which did not make it necessary for him to pass Temple Bar.

Ever since his day the King and Queen visiting their Norfolk home have used King's Cross and not Liverpool Street, the normal terminus for Wolferton, the station for Sandringham.

Christmas Means Work for the A.A.

THE Christmas spirit, that sense of cares laid aside, and, unfortunately for employers, of the complete unimportance of work in general, has crept insidiously over most of us, accentuated no doubt by the slack business which always seems to exist just at this time of the year.

There is one organisation, however, which has had anything but a restful Christmas week. I refer to the Automobile Association, who must be cursing the weather, which is obviously no respecter of the seasonable spirit. One of their officials tells me they had 17,000 telephone calls from members in 48 hours, and 10,000 in one day.

The 70 lines at their head offices in Coventry Street, and their private lines all over the country have proved inadequate to meet the emergency. The inquiries have varied from how to get to Cairo to the amount of snow on the Oxford by-pass.

Much has been written about the romance of the A.A., but I think it is still staggering. In 1905 it had only 100 members, and operated on a borrowed typewriter in a tiny office in Fleet Street. To-day there are more than 720,000 members, and the annual turnover is in the region of £1,000,000.

The A.A. now are the motorist encyclopædia, and their only regret is that the incoming calls during the last hectic week have been so overwhelming that they have been unable at times to put in any calls of their own to collect the very information for which all their members are clamouring.

Christmas Customs at Oxford.

MOST picturesque of all the old Christmas customs are those at Queen's College, Oxford, where on Christmas Day an immense boar's head, weighing 90lb., and decorated with silver daggers, frills and mistletoe, is brought into the hall to the accompaniment of blasts on silver trumpets, explained Mr. H. C. Lake, of the Folk Lore Society, to me the other day.

The Provost removes an orange from the boar's mouth and gives it to the choir soloist, other choristers receiving pieces of the silver garnishings. The brawn is Royal property and is sent every year to the King's household.

Guests at the Threadneedle dinner at the same college on New Year's night will receive from the bursar a needle and thread with the words, "Take this and be thrifty," a custom supposed by some to commemorate the decision of Shakespeare's Prince Hal, afterwards Henry V., to abandon his extravagant habits.

On both occasions the guests take a sip from the 600-year-old founder's horn, filled for the occasion with the famous Chancellor ale, a college-brewed liquor of great strength. It is said to be malt brewed with beer instead of with water.

In a remote Yorkshire village, Hubberholme, on New Year's Eve, the vicar has the task of auctioning two fields left in trust for the poor of the parish many years ago. The auction is held over pipes and tankards, in two rooms in the ancient village inn, which belongs to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. One room occupied by the vicar and his wardens is known as the lords, and the other where the farmers assemble is the commons, which the vicar visits at frequent intervals for a bid.

T.U.C.'s Rebuff to Miners.

IN refusing to elect Mr. Arthur Horner to succeed Mr. Joseph Jones as one of their representatives, the General Council has administered a rebuff to the Mineworkers' Federation of which the last has not been heard.

Mr. Horner has never disguised his Communist activities, and although long regarded as a bit of a trades union firebrand, his appointment as president of the South Wales miners, giving him more responsibility and a little less latitude, has left him far more tolerant to the rest of his trade union friends. Therefore, when the mine workers nominated him to the highest executive post in the trades union movement everyone believed he would be appointed, but the General Council apparently thought otherwise.

Four candidates were nominated from the mining group, and one of them, a quarrymen's representative of North Wales, who in ordinary circumstances would hardly have had a chance, was successful.

In this way the General Council has kept its executive ranks untarnished by Communist sympathy, and maintained its reputation for being as conservative in thought and action as the trades union movement will allow. As for Mr. Horner, his peace of mind is not likely to trouble him over much. He has tasted the sweets of adversity often.

He is a little dark man with a round and spectacled face, pleasant and amiable in private conversation, whom it would be hard to believe was a hardened agitator. But away back in 1931 he stood as a Parliamentary candidate, and, to the surprise of everybody, secured 10,000 votes as a Communist. The miners may put him up again at the next T.U.C.

Making Motorists Happy.
Organisation With Big Job.

Loss to the N.U.R.

NOT since the premature death of Mr. Charlie Cramp, their secretary, have the National Union of Railwaymen felt anything more keenly than the untimely loss of Mr. Walter T. Griffiths, their acting president.

Railway workmen, especially those on the mechanical side, are homely folk and good neighbours. Mr. Griffiths possessed the characteristic of both. From the time his engine driving came temporarily to a halt on his taking up the presidency of the Union, he was a big asset in the councils of the N.U.R.

No one was more keen on his duties, and the least difficulty that suddenly arose between the management and traffic grades brought him to London for conference with, and advice to the Executive officials. One of his last big jobs was to negotiate the unofficial strike which broke out some weeks back in London over the employment of a non-union guard.

As an ex-Mayor and a magistrate, Mr. Griffiths possessed a happy approach to the difficulty. The London strike might have developed into a calamity both for the company affected and the Union, but "Walter's" way prevailed, and he did more than the public realised in getting the men to resume work. In every way Walter Griffiths's death is a loss to the railway conciliation movement.

Foreign Office Official Goes Russian.

THE snow has had queer effects on the dress of the citizens of London. It has driven Sir Samuel Hoare into the recesses of a fur overcoat, and it has made Miss Wilkinson take to gaiters.

One of the curious results has been seen in Sir Stephen Gaselee, librarian at the Foreign Office. For years his dress has been invariable. Summer and winter he has gone to the office in a beautifully glossy silk hat and a grey check morning suit.

Yesterday, to the astonishment of his friends, he discarded the silk hat and put on a square astrakhan cap like those which are seen in the pictures of Russian sleigh drivers. Whether he had also discarded his check suit is uncertain, because he was enveloped in a large overcoat.

It Happened On December 24

NOTED EXPLORER DEAD.

Cochin, Malabar, A.D. 1524.

Vasco da Gama, the Portuguese navigator, died here to-day. Born in 1460, he saw plenty of fighting and when he was only 37 was the first man to round the Cape of Good Hope, discovered Natal and opened up a new route to India and the East. He may well be said to be the man who laid the foundation of Portuguese (and eventually British) prosperity in India.

FIRST STEAM TRAIN.

Cornwall, 1801.

To-day has seen something new—something which may alter the whole face of the country. A young engineer of 30, Richard Trevithick, has made himself a great name for the many improvements he has made to the steam engines used in pumping Cornish tin mines. Last year he patented a double-acting high-pressure steam engine, and has since been studying the question of steam locomotion. To-day his dream has been realised by the successful trial of his train—the first passenger steam train in Britain. Yet he died in poverty.

MUSIC ARTICLE

Things Of The Spirit

Ulster's Greatest Need To-day

"TO what purpose is this waste?" Through the centuries that have passed since the woman brought her offering to the Master the materialists and the utilitarians of the world have asked that question; and still thousands of the sons of men are deaf to the Song of the Angels, unheeding of the call of Beauty.

A Glorious Recompense.

To what purpose is this waste? Those of us who have given ourselves in the service of the Arts believe that there is no waste, but a glorious recompense in the offering of the alabaster box of precious ointment. What is that recompense? Surely it is the recompense that comes of any worthy offering: by our offering of the incense of Beauty on the altar of the Creator of all Beauty, we reap the richest reward vouchsafed to mankind, the reward of the anointing and purifying of our own lives. As our Belfast poet has put it:

> Every shuiler is Christ;
> Then be not hard or cold:
> The bit that goes for Christ
> Will come a hundredfold.

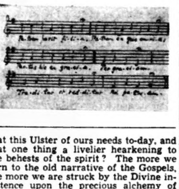
But here we servants in the Temple of Art shall surely be confronted with a sterner protest than that of the frank materialist, whose voice we can well ignore. We shall be told to read further in the Gospel narrative: "This ointment might have been sold for much and given to the poor"—proving that the disciples were not gross materialists but humanitarians in their dissent. In these present days of trouble and uncertainty and want, when the shuiler is more clamant on our doorsteps than ever before in our time, have we any right to press the claims of the Arts? The Divine answer is sure and certain: "She hath wrought a good work. . . . Wherever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her." So let us give to the shuiler, and give with an open hand, according as we have the means to give; but let us also pour out, joyously and unstintingly, our offering of precious anointment. So shall we ourselves be anointed with the oil of joy and gladness.

A Sacramental Offering.

It is, of a truth, hard to induce the men of the world to regard the Arts thus as a sacramental offering. Especially hard it is in an industrial centre like ours, where men have been trained from childhood, and have plotted and planned and sweated all their lives to build up —all honour to them!—the sound fabric of a material prosperity. Yet is not there one thing more than any other that this Ulster of ours needs to-day, and that one thing a livelier hearkening to the behests of the spirit? The more we turn to the old narrative of the Gospels, the more we are struck by the Divine insistence upon the precious alchemy of those things that the man of the world calls "waste." Even at the Birth of the King the kings of the earth brought their gifts, of no utilitarian value, and laid them with a fine prodigality before the Crib. As the English translation of an old XIIth century carol runs:—

> Gold our comely King doth show·
> Incense, Priest for evermo;
> But the gift of myrrh thereto
> Bodeth death and bitter woe.

Patrem parit filia



And the princes of industry shall of a surety be found wanting if, amid all their money-changing and their cunning craft in the building of ships and the weaving of linens, they have no time or thought to bring their offerings of gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Mr. Robb's Lead.

It was good indeed to read the recent appeal of our Minister of Education for a wider study of the classics in a Province where many would fain have the classics cast aside in favour of the three R's; and we may venture to take his words as an earnest that at least one department of our Northern Government has a heart for the "wasteful" things of the spirit. Some day his colleagues at Stormont may awaken—must awaken, if the future of Ulster is to be assured—to that call of the spiritual. Meanwhile, we who have hearkened to that call go on, zealously and unceasingly, to hasten the day; and I, in my small corner, shall go on pressing the claim of the art to which I have devoted my life. I do not claim, as some unreasonably do, that that art of music is more precious and revealing than are its sister arts; but I do most earnestly protest that it is, of all the arts, the one which has the widest claim, as being at once the art in which thousands of our Ulster people are richly endowed by Nature and the art which has been most wantonly ignored by the governors of Ulster's welfare.

B.B.C. Bureaucracy.

Would that we could look to that most powerful of all bodies, the British Broadcasting Corporation, to be a powerful and assiduous ally in the cause of Uster music. Its opportunity is great; it is backed up by the earnest desire of the Ulster people; but its heart must change, from the narrow and callous heart of a bureaucracy to the living heart that beats with love and understanding. Various expressions of resentment have reached me, in addition to those I have read in the Press, about the bureaucratic heartlessness which "faded out" the Philharmonic "Messiah" performance last Saturday at ten precisely by the B.B.C.'s unerring stop-watch, to make way for the next item of a rigid time-schedule. But that is only one of countless instances of official stupidity to which we have been subjected; and what can we expect of an organisation, one of whose officials once said to me, in an unhappy paraphrase, that "Music was made for man, not man for music"? With such an one there must be no waste; and "Messiah" must yield to News Bulletin and Beethoven symphony to the voice of the crooner.

A Very Blessed Giving.

This is the time of giving; the time when, loosening our purse-strings, we give not only the needed to the shuiler at our door but, with merry heart, many an unneeded token of our love and goodwill. It is the time of prodigal waste, when the giving is even more blessed than the gift. In the year that is coming, let us make our music, that most blessed gift, a very blessed giving, believing more and more that what the worldly-wise call waste is indeed the most precious offering we can make: our alchemy of Beauty to Him who is the Source of all Beauty. The offering of some shall be, indeed, but the widow's mite; but it shall be none the less acceptable as hers was: her all. It may be only the offering of the tears of a full heart; but even our tears may wash His feet.

> The ox is host in Juda's stall,
> And host of more than only one;
> For close she gathereth withal
> Our Lorde, her little Sonne.
> Glad hinde and king
> Their gyfte may bring;
> But would to-night my teares were there;
> Amen, Amen;
> Between His bosome and her hayre.

To all who have given themselves to the service of Beauty, I extend my greeting and good wishes. I cannot name them all; but I shall specially greet two, as representing all the other Friends of Music: that veteran, Louis Werner, of whose fourscore and two years more than sixty have been spent in the service of his Church's music; and that small child, whoever he may be, who started on the pilgrimage only last week and is even now struggling with the mysteries of the five-finger exercise. The one knows all the joy his music has brought him. The other shall surely know, if only his heart be full of love for the Beauty that perishes not.

To-morrow's Carol Service.

Once again I bid you all who have that love to the carol service in St. Anne's to-morrow afternoon, where you will hear, most truly and beautifully told, the Old, Old Story.

Venite, adoremus.

RATHCOL.

FAR EAST CONFLICT.

TALK OF PEACE TERMS.

EDUCATING JAP. PUBLIC OPINION.

I learn that the announcement of Japan's terms for peace with China, made by the Prime Minister, Prince Konoye, summarised the decisions of the Imperial Conference, states the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" Tokio correspondent.

The announcement was made largely to satisfy the public desire to know what the conference had decided.

Prince Konoye realised the advisability of educating Japanese public opinion, in the knowledge that Japan's peace terms would be more moderate than desired by many die-hard militarists.

The Prime Minister appreciates the fact that the decisions are unchallengeable by the public, once the nation realises that they have received Imperial sanction.

The fact that a number of Chinese leaders have been inquiring privately from prominent Japanese what are the probable peace terms lead to the hope that Sino-Japanese negotiations may be opened in the near future. Wang Ching Wei, the Chinese Foreign Minister, is spoken of as the possible Chinese representative.

CHINESE ATTACK NEAR CANTON.

CHUNGKING, Friday.—Chinese forces are attacking Tsengcheng, 30 miles east of Canton.

The Japanese are bringing up reinforcements, which the Chinese are trying to prevent reaching the city.

Nanhwei, a city to the east of Shanghai, has been recaptured by Chinese mobile units.—Press Association Foreign Special.

U.S. LORRIES FOR CHINA.

The sale to China of 1,000 lorries, costing approximately £200,000, which are intended to replace to some extent the railway system crippled by the Japanese invaders, has been arranged by a new company organised by American and Chinese citizens, states the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" New York correspondent.

The lorries have been bought with the aid of the £5,000,000 credit obtained from the Export and Import Bank at Washington for the development of industry and communications in the western provinces of China.

STRABANE WOMAN'S DEATH.

The police reported to the Strabane Coroner on Friday that Mrs. Elizabeth Semple, Gallony, Strabane, aged 74, was found dead in bed that morning. An inquest was considered unnecessary.

QUIET AND STEADY NERVES.

In all cases of Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Brain Fag, etc., Nicholl's Pick-Me-Up will be found an excellent sedative and restorative. It quiets the over-active brain, acts as a fillip to the stomach, soothes and strengthens the nerves, and enables you to obtain natural and refreshing sleep. Bottles—2s and 3s 6d; per post, 2s 6d and 4s. Sold only by I. W. NICHOLL, LTD., Pharmaceutical Chemists, 25 High Street, Belfast. National Health Insurance Dispensing. (6)

ROYAL VISITS TO ESTATE WORKERS.

MAY COME ANY TIME.

VILLAGERS ALWAYS READY.

While the Court is at Sandringham, villagers and workers on the Royal estate keep their cottages and houses specially spick and span—their front rooms always ready to receive visitors.

They know that on any day they may have an unannounced call from Royalty. The Queen and Queen Mary, sometimes with Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret, like to go on private "surprise" visits to the Sandringham folk to see how they are managing and to hear if there are any troubles needing attention.

Recently, under the supervision of the King's Agent at Sandringham (Mr. Fellowes) many of the cottages on the estate have been altered and modernised. Building materials from all over the country were used in the work, and the tenants have been eagerly awaiting this Christmas visit of the King and Queen to Norfolk in the hope of having an opportunity of expressing their thanks.

Like King George V., the King has taken the greatest interest in his Sandringham property, and he wishes it to be developed on modern lines. Various plans for further alterations and improvements are being considered now by his Majesty with a view to having them put into effect in the spring.

The King was born at York Cottage, the dower house of Sandringham, which has stood empty since the death of Queen Alexandra thirteen years ago, and what is to be done with this house—which is not convenient according to modern standards—is one of the problems which will be probably decided before the King and Queen return to London in February.

CARELESSNESS LED TO PRISON.

YOUNG SOLICITOR "RUINED"

FATE OF A "GOOD SAMARITAN."

A young solicitor, who was said to have got into "deep water" because he did not possess a full sense of responsibility, was at Edinburgh High Court on Friday sent to penal servitude for three years.

"Thus early in his life is his career laid in ruins about his feet," commented his Counsel.

The solicitor, Alan Ian M'Nair M'Leod, aged 23, of Broxburn, West Lothian, pleaded guilty to embezzling over £5,000 belonging to 14 clients.

Mr. D. P. Blades, K.C., on his behalf, said that his position was not due to gambling or living beyond his means. His father was a well-known inspector in the WestLothian Police, and M'Leod was known to everybody at Broxburn. A great many of the poorer people came to Mr. M'Leod for loans, and M'Leod lent money without security. He was also involved in a business venture to well over £2,000.

"Carelessness does not excuse, especially when other people's money is involved," Counsel added. "On the other hand, it does take away any element of deliberate fraud. There was no cooking of books. There was a frank and honest laying of everything before those whose duty it was to make investigation."

OF COURSE NOT.

A woman said at Wood Green, London, Police Court:—

"My husband said he was going to leave me because he thought I was fed up with him. It was a ridiculous suggestion, because no woman gets fed up with a husband while he is earning good money."

A Happy Christmas
to all our Readers

To all its Readers the "Belfast Telegraph" sends its warmest good wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Bright New Year.

MOTOR VAN PLUNGED OVER QUAYSIDE.

TWO DUBLIN MEN DROWNED

HEROIC RESCUE ATTEMPT FUTILE.

Trapped in a motor van which skidded on the ice-bound quayside, two Dublin men lost their lives when the van plunged into the dock.

The victims, Robert Osborne, North Great George's Street, and Patrick Nolan, Cuffe Street, were delivering goods at the G.S.R. depot after 4 p.m. on Friday when the van plunged into the dock penetrating the ice-covered surface.

The alarm was raised by an occupant of a coal boat berthed in the vicinity, and a plucky attempt at rescue was made by Jack Lovely, Corporation Buildings, who dived into the icy water in an effort to free the men trapped in the cabin of the van.

He managed to grasp one of the men, and was nearing the dockside when the man slipped from his grasp.

Lovely was exhausted, and grasping a lifeline was pulled ashore and removed to hospital.

Osborne's body was recovered, but Nolan's body is still believed to be in the cab of the van.

BURSTS OF SPEED.

WITTY TOPICAL COMMENTS.

Weather upsets tempers.—Cold snaps.

Fire destroys tax papers at Plymouth. —Putting paid to them.

Householders racing for plumbers.— Bursts of speed.

Magistrate dons overcoat in court.— Not very summery jurisdiction.—The "Star."

WOMAN'S FIRE FALL.

TRAGIC DERRY AFFAIR.

SUBJECT TO EPILEPTIC FITS.

The death of an elderly Derry woman who received fatal burns yesterday when, during an epileptic fit, she fell into the fire in the kitchen of her home, was the subject of inquest proceedings by Dr. M. F. Leslie (Coroner for the Liberties).

Deceased was Mrs. Mary Rutherford (76), who resided on the outskirts of the city at Sheriff's Mountain, and the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

Evidence of identification was given by her son, Bertie Rutherford, who said he left his mother at the fireside in the kitchen at 9-15. On returning after doing some work on the farm he found her across the fire, badly burned. He lifted her out of the fireplace and sent for Dr. Cuningham. His mother, he added, had often taken weak turns.

Miss Margaret Rutherford, daughter, said her mother was subject to epileptic fits, which occurred every five or six weeks. The last one she had was about two weeks ago.

Dr. R. W. Cuningham said there was a wound on Mrs. Rutherford's forehead, caused apparently by striking the fireplace. There were extensive burns. Death, which had occurred before he arrived at the house at 12-15, was due to shock and burns.

Expressions of sympathy were passed with the relatives.

Christmas In The Hospital

SUPERINTENDENT NURSE CARMICHAEL AND MEMBERS OF HER STAFF IN THE GAILY DECORATED WARDS AT DERRY UNION HOSPITAL.

CHRISTMAS IN DERRY CITY HOSPITALS.—In the Children's Ward at Derry City and County Hospital where a heavily laden Christmas tree attracts all the attention of the little patients.

LEITRIM BOARD OF HEALTH

DISSOLUTION ORDER MADE.

Leitrim Board of Health and Public Assistance is to be dissolved. The Minister for Local Government has made an order to this effect and the affairs of the Board are to be transferred to a commissioner, Mr. David O'Keeffe, St. Mary's Terrace, Taylor's Hill, Galway.

No reason is given for the step. A sworn inquiry into the affairs of the Board was held in private last July and lasted six days.

Mr. O'Keeffe is Local Government auditor for Galway and Mayo and was formerly commissioner in Offaly when that Council was dissolved some years ago.

BOXER TURNED EVANGELIST.

There will be found in our advertising columns a notice in reference to Mr. Sam Brown, a man of many parts, who has turned evangelist. Mr. Brown was at one time well known as a barman in a public-house in the Shankill Road district of Belfast, a very capable wrestler, meeting men famous for mastery in that art, and also boxing. He has also been a ward-master in the Belfast Union, and an insurance agent. He has since come across some outstanding preachers, such as the late Dr. Dimsdale Young.

ENGLISH MASONRY.

GRAND MASTER'S RESIGNATION.

DUKE OF KENT SUCCESSOR.

PROGRESS SINCE 1717 REVIEWED.

When a few weeks ago the Duke of Connaught, who has been Grand Master for 38 years, decided to resign the office he did so with the confident satisfaction that at no time had the Craft under the United Grand Lodge of England been stronger in numbers or more united in principle (writes a "Times" correspondent). Yet it has experienced many vicissitudes since Freemasonry was first regularised in 1717. The Grand Lodge of Ireland followed in 1726, the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1735, and all three continued to progress side by side over two centuries.

When in succession to the Prince of Wales, who had become King Edward VII., the Duke of Connaught was elected Grand Master in 1901 there were on the register of Grand Lodge 2,860 lodges in all parts of the Empire, and on September 30 last there were similarly 5,060 lodges, of which London had 1,258, the provinces of England 3,067, two were military lodges, with travelling warrants, 678 were lodges abroad collected into districts, and 55 were abroad, not under districts. The last lodge in the list was numbered 5757.

The difference between the actual numbers and the computation is explained by the fact that in the last century and a quarter—the union of the two Grand Lodges took place in 1813—many lodges abroad have been transferred from the United Grand Lodge of England to be part of new Sovereign Grand Lodges in various parts of the Empire. The number of lodges actually erased as having ceased to work is comparatively small.

LODGES IN DOMINIONS.

There are now Sovereign Grand Lodges in the Dominion of Canada—nine in number corresponding to the nine Provinces—six in the Commonwealth of Australia, corresponding to the States, and one in the Dominion of New Zealand, all of which sprang from lodges under the Grand Lodge of England. The lodges in South Africa and in India are still ranged into district lodges and are, therefore, included in the figures already given.

During the war there was a very large increase of lodges, which, at the end of 1918, numbered 3,078, but this gradually diminished with the resumption of normal life in 1919, and the number of new entrants actually diminished to nearly pre-war level, though they have since begun to improve. For this change, the continued patronage of members of the Royal family has been an important factor. Three of the four sons of King George V. have joined the Craft and taken a prominent part in its operations. The present King, who accepted the office of Past Grand Master on his accession, was Provincial Grand Master for Midlesex for over 12 years, and the Duke of Kent has been Provincial Grand Master for Wiltshire since 1934. The public schools have also played an important part, while the universities, the hospitals, the professions, military, and other groups have contributed to the numbers.

IN FOREIGN LANDS.

Apart from this great strength of Freemasonry in the British Empire there are many foreign Grand Lodges with which the Grand Lodge of England is in amity. Forty-nine in the United States, six in Mexico and Central America, and 12 in South America.

Recent events have very much diminished the activity of Continental Grand Lodges and the strength is largely in the Scandinavian countries, Holland, Switzerland and some of the Balkan States.

France is in a special position. Sixty years ago developments there made it necessary for the Grand Lodge of England to cease relations, and this still continues, but, some 30 years ago, was formed the independent and regular National Grand Lodge of France, the lodges under whose jurisdiction are the only ones in France which an English Mason may visit or from whom he may invite visitors.

The issue in September of a statement authorised by the Grand Master as well as by the Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland which set forth in direct and emphatic form the aims and relations of the Craft was of great service, as it afforded a complete answer to many false statements which have been in circulation and also provided members of lodges with authoritative explanations on issues previously not discussed in public. Now they may point to this circular as indicating those basic principles for which the Grand Lodge of England, the mother Grand Lodge of the world, has stood throughout its history for more than 220 years. It follows the statement on these basic principles issued in September, 1929, and though it may not affect non-Masonic opinion, it indicates where some of this opinion has definitely gone wrong through prejudice or ignorance.

MASONIC BENEVOLENCE.

Apart from these matters primarily of internal concern, the activities of the lodges under the Grand Lodge of England are largely concerned with their four great charitable organisations—the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, instituted in 1788; the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, instituted in 1798; and Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution founded 1842, and the Royal Masonic Hospital, founded in 1913. The new hospital at Ravenscourt Park was opened in July, 1933, by King George V.

The three older Institutions rely for support on festivals held annually, at which large sums have been collected in small amounts from members of lodges are acknowledged, and the aggregate receipts at these festivals usually exceed £300,000.

With this and with the interest on invested funds the girls' schools at Rickmansworth and Weybridge maintain, clothe and educate over 500 pupils, while hundreds more living at home or with relatives receive grants for out-education until they have attained the age of 16 or 17.

Similarly the boys' schools at Bushey maintain, clothe and educate 800 boys and many hundred more receive grants for out-education. In both cases, help is given for higher education to those who show promise.

The benevolent institution, or, as it is more familiarly called, the "old people" gives annuities to members who have been subscribing members of a lodge for not less than 15 years or to their widow. There are 32 homes at Croydon but the annuitants, number over 2,800, the institution having decided over 80 years ago not to spend any more money on bricks and mortar but to increase the number of annuities. Apart from the benevolent institution, the Board of Benevolence, which meets monthly, dispenses charitable funds allocated out of members' subscriptions to those in need of urgent relief, and the annual sum so disbursed amounted to £40,000. This is quite separate from the "old people."

HOSPITAL'S WORK.

The newest of the institutions is the Royal Masonic Hospital, conducted on nursing home lines and available for Freemasons, their wives and children, and primarily intended for those who cannot afford ordinary nursing home charges. There is a minimum charge of three guineas weekly, but patients who are able to pay more are expected to do so. Subscriptions and lodge collections meet the deficit on the expenses of the hospital, which is administered so as to give the best possible care and treatment at the lowest possible expense. It provides accommodation for 200 beds, including children's wards and the nurses' home, opened last May by the Princess Royal, is a very fine building.

Since the resignation of the Duke of Connaught was made known, the Duke of Kent has been nominated to succeed him as Grand Master of United Grand Lodge, and also as Grand Master of Mark Grand Lodge, while the Earl of Harewood, who has been Pro-Grand Master of the Order of the Temple for six years, has been nominated to succeed the Duke of Connaught in that office. Thus, although there will be great regret at the resignation of the Grand Master, the New Year will find the Craft strong in its guidance and differing only in the personnel of those who have laboured for its welfare for many years.

The nomination of the Duke of Kent as Grand Master was made by Lord Stair, a Past Grand Master Mason of Scotland, an interesting proof of unity, and Lord Harewood's recent visit to Edinburgh is yet another, in view of the place which he has come to hold in the estimation of all Freemasons.

EX-KAISER'S GIFTS

FOR POOR VILLAGERS.

WOOD CHOPPED BY HIMSELF.

The ex-Kaiser, who will be 80 in a month's time, yesterday distributed parcels of food and clothing to a number of Doorn's poorer villagers, states the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" correspondent.

With his white hair and beard he made a striking picture as he stood in a sheltered part of the snow-covered grounds of Doorn House. He was wearing a fur-lined coat and a fur cap. Those selected to receive gifts entered the grounds pushing wheelbarrows and handcarts, and stood in a line before the ex-Kaiser. Among them were several women.

The ex-Kaiser shook hands with each one after handing over personally the parcels, which were given him one by one by Princess Hermione. After this little ceremony the villagers were allowed to take away a fairly large stack of wood which the ex-Kaiser himself had chopped and sawn. This was carried away on the wheelbarrows and hand-carts.

The ex-Kaiser is in very excellent health.

A.R.P. IN HOLYWOOD.

CAPT. ABERNETHY'S WORK.

REVIEW OF PROGRESS.

At a meeting of the A.R.P. in the Town Hall, Holywood, on Friday evening—Captain G. H. Creighton presiding—the A.R.P. officer for the district, Captain H. R. G. Abernethy, reported that the fitting up of the office in High Street, Holywood, would be completed shortly, and he would then be in attendance each evening for the enrolment of volunteers. Meantime he had had another list of residents who had offered the use of their cars for A.R.P. work. He had designed a special disc for these cars which will be easily recognised, and these would be ready in a few days.

Mrs. John B. Getty, commandant of the Holywood Red Cross, had reported that 14 first year candidates had been examined in A.R.P. and some 20 others for proficiency. They were examined by Colonel D. M'Vicker, M.C., M.B., F.R.C.O., and they had all passed these examinations.

The classes under Miss Oona Neill, commandant of St. John, were also making splendid progress. 38 have been examined and 36 passed.

The Chairman said he had several positions in view for the erection of bomb proof shelters, and he would like the residents to know that the committee were fully alive to the requirements in this important part of the work.

DEATH OF MR. R. DUNLOP.

NEARLY 60 YEARS WITH FINLAY'S.

The death is announced at his residence, 117 The Mount, Belfast, yesterday, of Mr. Robert Dunlop.

Mr. Dunlop has been connected with the firm of Messrs. Alexander Finlay, Ltd., soap manufacturers, Victoria Square, Belfast, for nearly 60 years, and was a well-known and highly respected figure in business circles.

He joined the firm in 1879 and in 1918 was appointed office manager, holding the latter position until the time of his death. On the completion of his fiftieth year of service with Messrs. Finlay, Mr. Dunlop was made the recipient of a presentation from his employers in appreciation of his ability.

Mr. Dunlop, who was over 70 years of age, was possessed of a very genial disposition and made many friends. He worshipped at Ballymacarrett Presbyterian Church and took a keen interest in its activities. He is survived by his wife, a son and daughter, to whom sincere sympathy will be extended in their bereavement.

SEASONABLE GREETINGS.

FROM BELFAST DOCK TO BENCH.

"A merry Christmas to your Worship" cried Margaret M'Laughlin, of no fixed address, when she appeared in the dock at the Belfast Custody Court to-day on a charge of being drunk and disorderly outside Hastings Street Police Barracks yesterday.

"Christmas only comes once a year, and it's ten years since I saw it. Do give us a chance," she pleaded.

"I'm sorry, but you only came out the day before yesterday," said Mr. J. H. Campbell, R.M. "One month."

His Worship allowed a number of first offenders to go "on account of it being Christmas time."

Telephone 25174

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● The Entire Stock of this Season's Models at Genuine Sale Prices

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BELFAST

RAIN CHANGE FAIR
STORMY VERY DRY
"Ah well, folks have got
CHERRY BLOSSOM
BOOT POLISH
to keep their footwear dry"
C.B.9

I feel fine NOW!
FENNINGS' CERTAINLY DID WORK WONDERS—They assist the Lungs to throw off all irritating matter arising from Bronchitis, Influenza, Coughs, etc., and to regain health and vigour.
FENNINGS' LUNG HEALERS
SOLD AT 6d., 1/3 AND 3/-
70 YEARS REPUTATION INSIST ON FENNINGS'
SEND FOR A FREE COPY OF FENNINGS' "EVERY MOTHER'S BOOK" to:
ALFRED FENNINGS, COWES, ISLE OF WIGHT

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THE PERFECT BROWN BREAD THAT ENSURES GOOD HEALTH

A fountain pen or propelling pencil is an ideal present and makes both a sentimental and a practical appeal. We stock all the leading makes. Let us help you in your choice of presents for your friends this Christmas.

W. & G. Baird, Ltd.
RETAIL SHOP
Royal Avenue, Belfast

B

The best pale household soap

FINLAY'S QUEEN'S

NOW ONLY 4D PER LB.

PAGE FOR THE WEEK-END

GUIDE FOR BOOKLOVERS

An Author's Vivid Life-story

"SAILOR ON HORSEBACK." The Biography of Jack London. Irving Stone (Collins, 12s 6d).

IRVING Stone whose biography of Vincent Van Gogh, had such a rapid success, has now written the biography of London. It would be a poor writer indeed who could not produce a fascinating story out of the astonishing wealth of material that Jack London's variated life and complex nature provide. From the mystery of his birth to his death by his own hand his life was stranger than the fiction he created, and Irving Stone relates it in a straightforward, vivid manner so that it loses nothing in the telling.

All Jack London's early life was spent in poverty; for many years he lived just above starvation level; he became the highest paid author in the world; he made millions and was never out of debt; and he finally died insolvent. And that in itself is a commentary on the failure in success that was his life.

His mother was an unusual woman, who, when a girl, one day walked out from her well-to-do home and never again held any communication with her family, supporting herself by giving spiritualist seances; his father, an itinerant Irish astrologer whom he never met. His parentage accounted for many of his eccentricities.

AN OYSTER PIRATE.

THE man who wrote "If my stories are fierce, then life is fierce. I think life is strong, not fierce, and I try to make my stories as strong as life is strong," had known at first-hand all that lust for living that characterises his writing. Finding that he could make more money in a single dangerous night than he could in three months legitimate work, he became an oyster pirate when he was fifteen, raiding the beds every night and living with the oyster fleet with its constant drinking, fighting, stabbing and shooting.

Always an extremist, he had to do everything better or on a bigger scale than everybody else. But in between these wild scenes he would spend hours in the Free Library, returning with armfuls of books to be read, locked in his cabin.

After a couple of years of this he felt he had extracted all the savour from that adventure, so he shipped on a whaler on a round voyage for Korea, Japan and Siberia, and followed that up by becoming a "train hobo," stealing rides from town to town and begging food at each stopping place. These roamings alternated with periods when his determination to be an educated man made him work as a janitor to earn money to go to High School.

When he finally reached his goal of a university the death of his stepfather caused him to leave in order to support his mother. When gold was discovered in the Klondyke it was inevitable that he should be in the advance guard of the "rush," but the wealth he brought from the Yukon was not in yellow nuggets, but in tattered notebooks. It was the short stories of Alaska that he turned out in endless series when pressing financial needs caused him to feel, like Sir Walter Scott, "I write because I have to live," and with which his name is best associated.

All this time he had recorded in his notebook character sketches of the men he met, dialogue he overheard, true life stories, scenes and adventures that were all made use of when he put his gifts of perception, sensitivity and command over words in writing.

SUCCESS WAS SLOW.

BUT success was slow and spasmodic, his household goods, his clothes even, were as often as not in pawn. When it did come, his financial position somehow never improved. His generosity was prodigious and his schemes for social progress quixotic. His ranch alone supported over 500 people at his expense; he built a fireproof mansion, and the night before it was to be occupied it was burnt down; he planned to sail round the world in his own sailing boat, and actually started on the wild trip.

Behind all this ceaseless adventuring and increasing literary output he was an unhappy, and always a lonely man. He was prodigal with the riches of his land, his brain, his body, and his purse. Mr. Stone shows him as independent, moody, self-willed and confident, credulous, honest and fearless.

His life makes enthralling reading, a book that captures the imagination by the tragedy of its hero, and which is as vital as his arresting personality. Mr. Stone is a self-confessed lover of Jack London, the man and his writings, but his admiration is not one that is blind to his hero's faults and failings, and he writes from the standpoint that the man had a quality of greatness that demands that only the truth should be written concerning him.

"HERCULE POIRET'S CHRISTMAS," Agatha Christie (The Crime Club—Collins 7s 6d.)

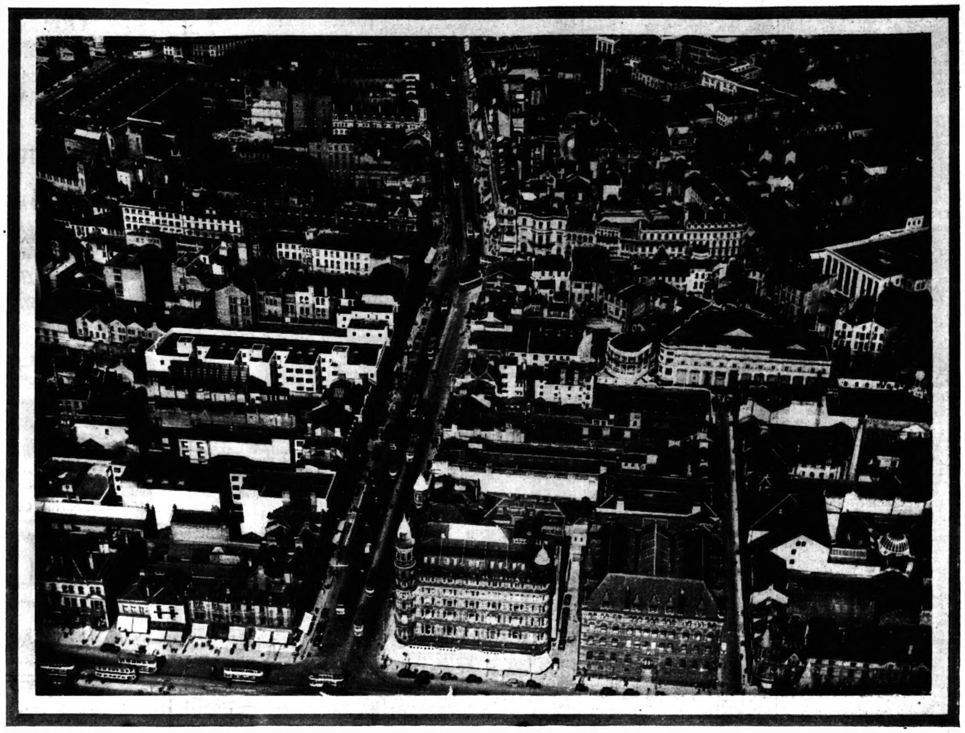
Agatha Christie has greeted Christmas with a seasonal adventure for the famous Monsieur Poiret. Hercule is promised a peaceful traditional English Christmas as an inducement to visit his friend, the Chief Constable of Middleshire, but needless to say his holiday is soon interrupted by a case of murder.

A friendly critic having complained to Mrs. Christie that her murders were getting too refined, even anæmic, she has set out to devise a really violent murder with lots and lots of blood in melodramatic fashion, and she spares no details to this end.

Simeon Lee is the victim of a murder that baffles the local police. The old man having quarrelled with most of his family, expressed a desire to have them all round him at Christmas. His motives, however, dictated not from good will but from a vindictive boredom, are such that it is a wonder he was allowed to live so long by his relatives.

Four sons, three daughters-in-law, a newly-discovered Spanish granddaughter, a stranger from South Africa, and a male nurse with a weakness for blackmail, have all equally good motives for getting rid of the old man, but also have alibis of varying worth. As the corpse is found in a blood-covered room with windows and door locked on the inside, it might have been thought a case of suicide were it not for the fearful screams and sounds of struggle coming from the locked room.

It takes Poiret's logical Gallic wit to find a solution, which is so unexpected that it is almost a disappointment. Mrs. Christie's ingenuity is too well known to need commendation, and this time is no exception.



ULSTER FROM THE AIR, No. 36—Belfast Centre Showing Donegall Place and Royal Avenue

How They'll Keep Christmas 100 Years From Now

Christmas a hundred years hence!

What will it be like, and how will it be celebrated?

* * * *

NO one knows, but in the light of present day developments and in view of the speeding up of progress, discovery and change during the present century it is likely that Christmas as we know it, will have vanished in 2038.

Before a century has elapsed man will have discovered how to control weather and to secure rain or sunshine when necessary for the growing of crops. What will happen, therefore, on Christmas Day 2038 when the younger generation, healthy and athletic, demand an old-fashioned Christmas with snow and ice, while the older people with desires for comfort prefer fine, dry weather for a happy Christmas? If youth controls the world a snowy Christmas will be arranged.

* * *

BUT there will be no Christmas waits to give a picturesque touch to the scene. Already, except in a few remote districts, waits have degenerated into unemployed, hungry men with no idea of music, and by 2038, when no one will be unemployed or hungry, there will be no one with any wish to masquerade in braided coat and three corner hat to sing by the light of an old-fashioned lantern.

There is danger in attempting to forecast what will happen to religion in the future. A simplification of services, a more practical satisfaction of man's spiritual yearnings and a less aloof attitude towards the outsider will so affect churches that by 2038 sects will have vanished, and Christmas Day will be reverenced by everyone and not by a few.

No one will go to church—a broadcast service will be heard by all—radio receivers of a century hence will be as different from the complicated cabinets of to-day as aeroplanes are different from the balloons of last century.

In fact there will be no radio sets except in museums. Devices to pick up broadcast sounds will be built in to the house, with simple switches, and with nothing to go wrong.

* * *

TELEVISION will have a double purpose at Christmas in 2038, for not only will it bring the church service into every home which has a blank wall specially reserved for televised scenes, but also friends will be able to exchange conversations with one another and see one another's pictures on the wall at the same time. This will make Christmas cards and telegrams unnecessary, so that the postman will be unseen on Christmas Day.

So will the cook. A few sentimentalists may meet to partake of a real old-fashioned Christmas dinner complete with turkey, mince pies and Christmas pudding, but they will be very few, and will, indeed, have to meet in secret lest their gluttony bring them into disrepute.

Eating will have become a fine art—all food being scientifically prepared, concentrated and nothing eaten except what is beneficial. We may regard this vision as dull and miserable, but our descendants, saving hours every day which we spend in cooking, eating and clearing up after meals will marvel that we in 1938 squandered our time so recklessly, when we might have been working or playing.

Whatever may happen before a century has gone by there is no doubt that our descendants will know better than we how to amuse themselves. The steady decrease in the hours of work will bring so much leisure to workers that amusement and recreation will be well organised and thoroughly practised.

* * *

AT Christmas time, which will still be a time of merriment, there will be music and games in many homes, for a re-action against ready made music of broadcasting will have led to a revival of music and playing. Most homes will have their own skilled musicians, and everyone will be so trained to play that instead of anyone saying "What shall we do next?" participants in Christmas parties in 2038 will be lamenting that times flies so fast.

Not all families will wish to stay indoors, especially if the weather be good. Many will want to run up into the stratosphere in father's new gyroplane, or a trip to Africa or the North Pole in one of the super-luxurious public aerobuses

Public entertainments will be plentiful, and will range from sports meetings where displays of athleticism will be free from partisanship, to magical entertainments where conjurors and illusionists attempt to mystify audiences who, freed from any belief in the supernatural, will know almost as much as the would-be deceivers themselves.

* * *

THE cinema will have gone, killed by the development of practical and inexpensive television; the theatre will survive but only as a means of displaying real acting, fine music and singing, and feats of athleticism and balance. All these will be well patronised in 2038 at Christmas, but one Christmas feature will not alter.

Children will be children for ever—only as they grow older will they be tainted by progress and lose their freshness and spontaneity. While they remain children, Christmas customs will remain, they will still hang up their stockings to be filled with toys by Father Christmas, and will still awake on Christmas morning to marvel at the all-knowing Father Christmas who brought exactly those toys for which the children had been waiting.

And human beings will be human beings no matter how much we progress scientifically, and so the most popular feature of Christmas 2038 with adults will be, as it is in 1938, that bunch of mistletoe hung in the hall to serve as an excuse for that sweetest of all Christmas customs.

Christmas Winner

With this happy picture Mrs. Glennon, of 557 Donegall Road, Belfast, wins the Christmas prize of half-a-guinea in our Happy Childhood Photograph Competition.

Entries for next week's contest should be addressed to "Child Photograph Contest," Belfast Telegraph, Royal Avenue, Belfast, and be posted to arrive not later than first post on Wednesday, December 28.

Remember to enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you want your print returned.

HISTORY IN SURNAMES

ALEXANDER

OF all ancient baptismal names Alexander has been one of the most fruitful. The meaning of it was "helper of mankind," but there is no doubt that parents were more mindful of the Alexander, who is said to have desired more worlds to conquer, and other real or romantic heroes than of the name meaning. It has its root as a surname in Great Britain and Ireland. Strong in Scotland and England, it is borne by an ancient noble family in Ireland, the Earls of Caledon who descended from the Alexanders of County Carlow.

The first earl held high offices in India and the second earl was the first Governor of the Cape of Good Hope. Another branch of the same family is represented in the baronetage. It was conferred on William Alexander, who was a Lord Mayor of Dublin, and the third baronet was in his day Attorney-General to King Edward when Prince of Wales.

Dr. William Lindsay Alexander, a native of Leith, was a famous Scotch preacher in the last century, and another William Alexander, of Aberdeen, became noted for his sketches of Scotch characters.

Sir James Alexander was a distinguished soldier who served in many parts of the Empire, and proved by many volumes of travel that he had vivid powers of description. Major-General Sir Claud Alexander, of Ayr, was another eminent soldier who became the first baronet.

Rt. Rev. William Alexander, who was famous for his eloquence, became Archbishop of Armagh and Primate.

Archibald Alexander, who was a noted American divine and scholar, was of Scottish descent and, indeed, Alexanders of Scotland have found their way into most parts where the surname is found.

Sir George Alexander, the actor, was a native of Reading, who made his stage debut at Nottingham. His widow, Lady Alexander, is one of the most active charity organisers and is everywhere known for her constant good works. The initiative of Lady Londonderry and other friends led to a remarkable reception in London recently in honour of Lady Alexander and her services to the arts and charity.

Mr. A. V. Alexander, who represents a Sheffield Division in the British Parliament, is Socialist and Co-operative leader, and was the First Lord of the Admiralty in the last Socialist Government. The British Order of Merit contains the name of Samuel Alexander who received it for his eminence in philosophy.

NEXT WEEK: FLYNN

A PLAIN MAN'S SERMON

The Message Of Yuletide

LOOKING around us in the world to-day we find it difficult not to be disheartened. Two peculiarly horrible wars are still raging, and it is but three months ago that we were standing on the brink of a conflict which would have practically blotted out European civilisation.

We have watched the defeat of the ideals embodied in the League of Nations, and we see brute force and the doctrine that might is right enthroned without shame or apology.

Everywhere there is suspicion and fear driving the nations to an expenditure on armaments which is appalling, but to which they are remorselessly compelled as the only hope which they can see of national security.

It seems almost as if a spirit of evil had got loose in the world, manifesting itself in hideous persecutions and brutal cruelties which can scarcely be paralleled in what we speak of as the dark ages of barbarism.

The world as it is to-day cannot be contemplated by any thinking person without sadness. Must we abandon all hope of moral progress, and despair of any real improvement of human nature? Must we resign ourselves to complete pessimism not only as to the present, but also in our anticipation of a yet more dismal future?

In such a world as this, it is with special relief that we turn once again to welcome the message of Christmas, and try to escape—even if it be but for a few days—from the problems and fears which beset us, to contemplate the peace and tranquility of Bethlehem, and to welcome once again into our hearts the hope which is there held out to a distressful humanity.

SETS US ALL FREE.

THAT is the great blessing of the Christmas Festival, that it set us all free for a space from the pressure of our anxieties and the stress of our present circumstances to give ourselves up, for a brief space, to rejoice with care-free minds in the Good News which is good news indeed.

Let us try to do so this Christmastide, being assured that the more we can manage to withdraw our thoughts from the clouds which hang over the world, and devote them to contriving what happiness we can for our less fortunate brothers and sisters, for our friends, and for the children, the better for us and for everybody.

Therefore let us all, like the shepherds, put aside for a while our normal tasks, whilst we betake ourselves to Bethlehem "to see this thing which the Lord hath made known unto us," and to draw from the gladness which is to be found there, fresh hope, fresh courage, and fresh inspiration.

For if there is the happy release which Christmas brings, there is also, let us not forget, the Christmas *message*. And that message is about the need for faith, if we wish to find the way of escape from the present maladies of the world. For it is the Christmas story which bids us remember, as it brings us back to Bethlehem, how the most humble and obscure beginning may, by the power of God, develop into something which can ultimately change the face of the world.

Which of us who might have stood by that manger, amid those mean surroundings, could have dared to believe that there could be for that little child any other than a commonplace and obscure future. What contrast could be stronger than that between the apparent insignificance and helplessness of that little Child and the transformation which His coming was destined to effect in the world?

With the Babe of Bethlehem there did actually come into this world a new influence which no materialistic force has been able to destroy; and, after the lapse of more than nineteen centuries, this Christ-Child remains incomparably the most potent influence upon earth; and every day that we live we are being forced to see more clearly that in Him lies the one hope of the world.

RELIGION STILL THERE.

RULERS may indeed proscribe and persecute religion; but that has happened all through the ages; and religion is still there! What never does and never can happen, is the final triumph of the powers of evil; and if Christmas has anything to teach us, it is that we must never allow ourselves to doubt, even for one moment, the final victory of good over evil, and the supremacy of the spiritual over the material.

The biggest of all the mistakes that we can make is to suppose that because a thing *looks* weak, it therefore is weak. That is something about which God has taught us, once for all, at Bethlehem.

To believe, and to accept thankfully, the Good News of Christmas, is to be made sure that, surely, inevitably, irresistibly those spiritual things for which Christ and His manger stand must, in the long run, win the victory over what is merely material. It is to have renewed in us the confidence that—in spite of all outward appearances to the contrary—the world is slowly but surely being saved from what is evil and led onwards to what is good.

And so it is. In spite of the temporary set-back which we are witnessing with so much dismay, this outburst of violence, hatred, oppression and mediæval barbarism, the general mind and will of the world is set on better things and reaching out, as never before, to the ideals of reason, fellowship, tolerance and fair-play for all.

REV. L. B. ASHBY.

THE DOCTOR'S CORNER.

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS.

BE sure that naked lights such as candles on Christmas trees are at such a height that they cannot come in contact with flimsy frocks.

Remember that some young children are really terrified by crackers and other unusual noises. These toddlers cannot help their terror, and nightmare may follow if they are frightened.

It is well worth spending the half-hour before the children's bed-time in reading non-exciting stories or in some quiet game. If some effort is not made to calm the little ones after the intense excitement of Christmas day, sleep may be long in coming and the night's rest disturbed.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

LOWER SHARE VALUES

EXCEPTIONAL ARGENTINE RAILS

HOPEFUL VIEW OF FUTURE

LONDON, Friday Night.—In the past week stock and share values generally have tended to sag daily and aggregate falls on the week are in many cases substantial. Only in one department have prices shown an upward trend—namely, in the Argentine Railway department, where some speculative buying has been encouraged by the favourable prospect for crops now that the danger and damage from frost has passed. Some of the Debenture and Preference stocks in this group have risen by as much as five points.

TECHNICAL POSITION GOOD.

Few members of the London Stock Exchange have earned their expenses this week. They would have been agreeably surprised had they done so. Business since the crisis has been of poor dimensions and no stimulus has come to hand to stir the investor or speculator to action. The silly pinpricks of a certain section of the foreign Press continue to remind British investors that peace has not yet been attained, and until Germany and Italy adopt a more friendly attitude greater interest in the stock markets is unlikely.

Happily the technical position of the markets is excellent. The account opened is exceptionally small, and directly the political clouds disappear an advance will occur. At this festive season of the year it is to be hoped that peace and good-will will obtain and be continued in the New Year.

CONTINENT AND FUNDS

British Government stocks have been depressed by several factors, including some selling on Continental account and some liquidation to meet forthcoming income-tax demands on a market rendered less resistant than otherwise it would have been owing to the weakness of sterling, the prospect of monetary stringency, and the dissensions in the Cabinet.

Home Railway stocks have lost part of the recoveries they had previously gained under the stimulus of the "Square Deal" campaign as the problematical benefits to be derived therefrom have been more than offset by the £290,000 traffic decrease reported by the group lines in the past week.

FOREIGNERS.

Foreign Government Bond movements have been erratic. French Railway Bonds have risen several points in recovery from the depression that prevailed at the time of the "strike" crisis, and Chinese Bonds have improved on the strength of the financial credits accorded by Great Britain and the U.S.A. On the other hand, the Czecho and Prague Bonds have fallen heavily following the abortive visit of Dr. Schacht to London.

Transatlantic stocks have weakened in sympathy with the downward trend of Wall Street.

Home Industrial shares, with only one or two exceptions, have lost ground.

CABLE AND WIRELESS.

The Cable and Wireless stocks have reached new "lows" as a result of the further disappointing traffic index figure for November, bringing the average decline for the eleven months of the current year to a figure 10 points below that of the average for 1937.

Cement shares have declined further in consequence of the recent speech by Lord Wolmer, but may somewhat recover now in view of the extent to which cement will figure in the A.R.P. "shelter" plan just announced by Lord Anderson.

Seager Evans shares have fallen further and heavily, notwithstanding the statement by the chairman at the meeting that the negotiations with interested parties previously announced as likely to materialise to the considerable benefit of the company, may yet eventuate in some advantageous arrangement.

Leyland Motors have fallen 4s to 26s 3d, although the profits for the past year (£643,300) are £11,700 higher than for 1937 and the dividend is maintained at 25 per cent. Still larger profits and a larger dividend were expected.

MINING SHARE MARKET DULL.

In common with most other sections of the Stock Exchange the Mining share market has presented a dull appearance. A certain amount of continental offering has been responsible for a marking down of dividend payers. East Gedulds, Geduld Props., and Sub Nigels have receded rather sharply, while Rand Mines have moved against holders. Simmer and Jacks have eased slightly to 18s 7½d following the dividend. Of the non-producers West Witwatersrands, among others, have weakened. Copper shares have moved irregularly, being little altered on balance. Anacondas have eased to 7⅛ on American advices. Of diamonds De Beers Defs. has improved, although the market was somewhat disappointed with the Preference dividend decision. Tin Wolfram shares have attracted attention, particularly Beralts, which have moved rather sharply ahead.

OIL MARKET DULL.

A dull tendency has prevailed in the Oil Share market during the past week, although changes for the most part are small. Anglo-Ecuadorians have fallen sharply following the meeting, while Shells and Royal Dutch have moved against holders. Mexican Eagles have changed hands a few times, but are steady as compared with a week ago.

RUBBERS STEADY.

Very quiet conditions have prevailed in the Rubber share market during the week and share values have moved within very narrow limits, leaving prices little altered as compared with a week ago.

The commodity has remained steady at 8 3-32d per lb.

TEA SHARES QUIET.

There has been little activity in the Tea share market, but share values have been maintained.

LITTLE WEST AFRICANS.

Three months ago attention was called to the merits of a West African goldfield which is about the furthest from the coast—the country upon which the Lyndhurst, Konongo, and Nanwa mines are situated—and although the shares of these companies have fallen back, through lack of interest mainly, developments continue of a satisfactory character. The Konongo has just declared an interim dividend, the first in its history. This is a good sign, and the 2s shares can be bought at 3s 6d.

Lyndhurst 1s shares can be bought at 1s 6d, and apart from two mines there is a holding of 2,723,000 Konongos. The Nanwa, which is to the extreme north, are 2s, giving the property a valuation of £500,000.

The Gold Coast Selection Trust and allied companies are lending money for development of Nanwa, and ultimately a good mine should be opened up. There is nothing wrong with this group of mines.

AMERICAN OIL INDUSTRY.

An explanation of the present state of the American oil industry is vouchsafed by Mr. H. C. R. Williamson, the chairman of the Anglo-Ecuadorian Oilfields, Ltd. states that crude oil prices in the Textile and Mid Continent fields were reduced in September and November by 20 cents. and 25 cents. per barrel respectively. Such cuts if maintained or aggravated cannot but have an adverse effect on profits, as world prices are regulated by American quotations. Some States are curbing production, but other States are not applying control. Refiners persist in treating more crude oil than is justified by market demand, so stocks, especially of petrol, have attained abnormal proportions. The fact that co-operative action has not been adopted is due to the anti-Trust Laws in America. The U.S. Government is considering restriction for the whole of the country and legislation may be put through in the New Year.

WEEKLY BAROMETER.

RISES.

B.A. Western Railway 10½+1½.
Do. 5 per cent. Pref. 46+1½.
Central Argentine 10¾+½.
Do. 6 per cent. Pref. 37½+7.
Entre Rios 7½+1½.
Chinese 5 per cent. 1913 56+1½.
Do. 5 per cent. 1925-47 75+1½.
French 4 per cent. 13+1.
Lovell and Christmas 8s 9d+1s 6d.
Imperial Airways 27s 10½d+1s 1½d.
De Beers Defd. 7½+⅜.
Beralt Tin 9s 6d+1s 3d.

FALLS.

War Loan 3½ per cent. 97¾—⅜.
Great Western Railway 28—½.
Southern Prefd. 57½—½.
Cordoba Central 1st Debs. 53—2.
Czecho-Slovak 8 per cent. 48—10.
German 5½ per cent. 33—1.
Japan 4 per cent. 1889 37—½.
Prague 7½ per cent. 44—7.
Seager Evans 23s—4s 6d.
John Barker 52s—1s 1½d.
British American Tob. 4 23-32—3-16.
New York Central 20⅞—½.
Chrysler 87½—1½.
Assoc. Portland Cement 3 5-16—1-16.
British Plaster Board 26s 1½d—1s.
Pinchin Johnson 21s 7½d—1s 3d.
R. A. Lister 57s 3d—1s 9d.
Cable and Wireless Ord. 34—⅜.
Do. Pref. 76—1.
Crown Mines 15⅛—⅜.
East Geduld Props. 10⅜—⅜.
Rand Mines 8½—5-16.
Geduld Props 8⅛—⅛.
Sub Nigel 11⅛—⅜.
West Wits 6⅛—⅛.
Anaconda Copper 7⅛—½.
Anglo-Ecuadorian Oil 16s 9d—2s 9d.
Royal Dutch 36⅜—½.
Shells 4 1-32—⅛.

BANK OF FRANCE DIVIDENDS.

PARIS, Friday.—The Bank of France announced to-day that the gross dividend for the second half of 1938 has been fixed at 160 francs.—Exchange.

GOLD DEALINGS.

About 141 bars, of the approximate value of £420,000, were disposed of at 149s 1d per fine ounce, an increase of 2d on previous price.

The quotation was based on supply and demand, and included a premium of 1d over the dollar at 4.66⅛.

FIXED TRUST CHANGES.

First Provincial Reserve 14s 3d—15s 3d.
Gold Producers First 24s 7½d bid.
Do. Second 16s 1½d bid.
Do. Third 13s 4d—14s 4½d.
Investors General 15s 3d—16s 3d.
Gold 17s 6d—18s 6d.
Provident 12s 4½d—13s 4½d.
Rand Certs 19s 10½d bid
Security First 12s 4½d—13s 4½d.
Keystone Gold Certs 12s 3d—13s 3d.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

Amsterdam	8.58⅜
Batavia	8.56⅞
Berne	20.65⅛
Berlin	11.64
Brussels	27.67
Buenos Ayres	20.44⅞
Calcutta	1s 5 15-16d
Copenhagen	22 40
Hong Kong	1s 2⅞d to 1s 3⅛d
Madrid	100-200
Montreal	4.70⅛
New York	4.66⅛
Oslo	19.90
Paris	177⅛
Prague	136
Stockholm	19.41
Rio	3 1-16
Rome	88 11-16
Yokohama	1s 2d

DIVIDENDS AND REPORTS.

Escot Rubber—Dividend 6 per cent. against 7½ per cent. for year.

Padang Senang Rubber—Profit £10,138 against £22,515—dividend 5 per cent. against 10 per cent.

Mills and Rockleys—Final dividend on Ordinary shares 4½ per cent. actual, less tax, making 12 per cent. for year.

Bullard and Sons—Net profit, £108,036 (£114,075); to reserve for modernising of properties, £17,737 (£38,188); depreciation of investments, £17,000 (nil). Final of 10 per cent., making 15 per cent. (same); bonus of 2½ per cent. (same). Forward, £56,456 (£56,403).

Soember Ajoe Rubber Estates—Profit, £4,607 (£7,137); taxation reserve, £1,000 (nil). Dividend of 4.16 per cent. (6.25 per cent.). Forward, £1,531 (£1,151).

Waterfall Rubber—Profit during the year to September 30 last, after providing for Debenture and Loan Notes interest revenue, amounted to £13,962, compared with £13,638. After bringing in £15,381 from last account, there is £29,343 to be carried forward. In 1936-37 a sum of £5,000 was allocated to replanting and special cultivation reserve, but nothing is applied to that account this time. Shareholders in the company have not received a dividend since 1926-27, when interim and final payments of 5 per cent. each were distributed.

DONEGAL HERRING FISHING.

Operations, suspended early in the week in the Rosses district, were resumed on Thursday, when 100 crans were landed on Friday, selling at 35s per cran. All landings were shipped fresh to the British and Irish markets.

IRISH FAIRS.

ARVA (County Cavan)—Dropped calves 35s to 45s each, yearlings £6 to £9, 2-year heifers and bullocks £10 to £13, 3 years and upwards £13 to £14, springing cows £18 to £22, springing heifers £16 to £19, milch cows £17 to £19; pigs, brood sows £4 to £5 10s.

BALLYMENA—Calves under nine months £3 7s 6d to £6, six-quarter-olds £5 15s to £10, two-year-olds £8 to £12 13s, springers £12 10s to £23, milch cows £11 to £22 15s; pigs, suckers 18s to 32s, twelve weeks 27s to 33s 6d, stores 35s to 42s, brood sows £6 to £10.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS

Belfast Report

BUTTER—Print 1s 3d to 1s 6d, lump 1s 2d to 1s 4d—per lb. retail; farmers' 11d to 1s 2d per lb. wholesale.

BUTTERMILK—3s per rundlet.

VEGETABLES—Table celery 18s 6d to 36s, potherb celery 8s to 12s, parsley 12s to 15s, leeks 8s to 10s, beetroot 3s to 4s, turnips 6s to 8s—per dozen bundles; cauliflowers 2s 6d to 4s per dozen; Brussels sprouts 1s 6d to 2s per stone; savoys 12s to 16s, cabbage 12s to 16s—per 120; carrots 8s to 10s, parsnips 6s to 8s—per cwt.

POTATOES—Up-to-Dates, Arran Victors, Kerr Pinks, Majestic—2s 3d to 3s 3d per cwt.; Arran Banner, Arran Consuls—2s to 3s per cwt.

HAY—Upland new unseeded 2s 9d to 3s 8d, upland old unseeded 3s 3d to 4s, meadow 2s to 2s 6d, timothy 2s 3d to 3s; oat straw 2s to 2s 6d—per cwt.

FRUIT—Apples, extra fancy 20s to 25s, fancy 14s to 18s, ungraded 8s to 12s—per barrel.

HOLLY—Large motor load 55s, small 45s, cart load 20s.

MISTLETOE—Half-crate 7s 6d.

CLYDE CRUSHED SUGAR (Official Report)—Market steady and unchanged in absence of news from London.

CARLISLE CATTLE—No cattle report this week.

LIVERPOOL BUTTER—With holiday influences about there was a quiet tone in the market generally. Colonials were steadily held at recent prices. New Zealand finest 111s to 114s, Australian 110s to 113s. In Continentals, Danish remained steady at 145s to 148s, also Swedish at 132s to 135s, while Dutch was 1s dearer at 123s to 126s—per cwt.

IRISH MARKETS.

BALLYMENA—Oats 5s to 6s 3d per cwt., potatoes 1s 6d to 2s 6d per cwt.; hay, upland 3s 3d to 4s, meadow 2s to 3s, deseeded 1s 9d to 2s 6d—per cwt.; straw 2s to 2s 6d per cwt.; flax (20 tons) 8s 6d to 11s per stone.

BALLYMENA.—Turkeys, 10d to 11d per lb.; geese, 4d to 6d; plucked geese, 7d to 8d; cockerels, 8d to 9d; chickens, 3s 6d to 4s 6d each; ducks, 2s to 2s 6d.

BELTURBET—Chickens 1s 8d to 2s, hens 10d to 1s 3d, ducks 1s to 1s 6d, geese 3s to 4s—each; turkeys 6½d to 8½d per lb.; eggs 1s 3d to 1s 4d, potatoes 5½d to 6½d per stone; oats 10½d to 1s per stone, cabbage plants 1s 3d to 1s 6d per 100; meat 7d to 11d per lb.; creamery butter 1s 6d, country ditto 1s to 1s 2d—per lb.; lime 4s 6d to 5s per barrel.

CASTLEDERG—Butter, lumps 8d to 10d, prints 10d to 1s 4d—per lb.; pork (36 carcases), standard prices; young pigs 25s to 32s 6d, oats 7d per stone; turkeys 8d to 1s, geese 4d to 5d per lb.; chickens 2s 9d to 3s 6d, hens 2s to 2s 3d, ducks 1s 6d to 2s 3d—each; eggs, controlled prices; potatoes 2s 6d to 3s 6d per cwt.; hay, upland 2s 3d to 2s 9d, meadow 2s to 2s 3d—per cwt.; oats, straw, 1s 9d to 2s per cwt.; lime 1s 9d per cwt.

COOTEHILL—Eggs 1s 4d, chickens 1s 9d to 2s, ducks 1s 6d, hens 1s 3d to 1s 9d, geese 3s 6d to 4s 6d, turkeys 10½d per lb.; country butter 1s to 1s 3d.

DERRY—Hay 60s to 70s per ton, straw 30s to 35s per ton; turnips 15s to 16s per ton; potatoes 8s to 9s per sack; turf 12s to 14s per load; bogwood 16s to 18s per load.

MOVILLE—Butter, lumps 1s to 1s 2d, prints 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb.; young pigs 18s 6d to 23s each; oats 7d to 7½d per stone; fowl—turkeys 7d to 8d per lb., geese 3s to 5s 6d, chickens 1s 8d to 2s, hens 1s 6d to 1s 8d each; eggs, hen and duck 1s 3d per doz.; potatoes 5d to 6d per stone.

In Omagh market to-day turkey's were retailed from 1s 2d to 1s 6d, geese 9d to 10d, chickens 1s—per lb., and hens 2s to 2s 9d each.

THE MARKETING OF EGGS.

WHOLESALE DEALERS' PRICES.

The Ministry of Agriculture has determined that the following shall be the prices payable by licensed wholesale dealers for eggs delivered during the week ending on Saturday, December 24, 1938:—

For hen eggs purchased by a licensed wholesale dealer from a producer 1s per lb. Where the hen eggs were delivered by the producer to the packing store of a licensed wholesale dealer of Class A an additional halfpenny per lb. shall be paid.

For hen eggs purchased by a licensed wholesale dealer of Class A from a licensed wholesale dealer of Class B 1s 0 7-16d per lb.

Deductions—"Seconds," "soiled eggs" ½d per egg. Rejects 1½d per egg.

For duck eggs purchased by a licensed wholesale dealer from a producer 1s 5d per dozen. Where the duck eggs were delivered by the producer to the packing store of a licensed wholesale dealer of Class A an additional three-farthings shall be paid for each complete dozen so delivered.

Deductions—Rejects 1½d per egg.

CRASHING OF TREE

KILLS CO. ANTRIM FARMER.

ACCIDENT AT CARNLOUGH.

A fatal accident, which cast a gloom over the district, occurred at Carnlough on Friday afternoon.

Mr. John M'Mullan, Drumnacole, a well-known farmer and member of the Larne Rural Council, was engaged on his farm felling a tree when it crashed before he could get clear. He died before the arrival of the ambulance.

Mr. M'Mullan, who was about 73 years of age, was a familiar figure on the Coast Road, his geniality winning him countless friends. Until a short time ago he carried on an extensive grocery and provision business at Drumnacole in addition to farming. He had been a member of the Larne Rural Council and Board of Guardians continuously for 27 years, representing first Glencloy, which subsequently became Glenarm South. He took an interest in public duties, which he carried out efficiently, and was a most popular member of the Council, Guardians and Governors of the District Hospital.

He is survived by his wife and two daughters, to whom much sympathy is extended.

REMAND OF TWO YOUTHS.

LANCS MURDER CHARGE.

POLICE EJECT SHOUTING MAN.

A man who began to shout and, for a few moments, caused a commotion in Chorley (Lancs.) Police Court yesterday, was ejected by the police.

The incident occurred during the hearing of a case in which two eighteen years old youths, Ernest Berry, a joiner, of Progress Street, Chorley, and John Gallagher, a farm labourer, of Preston Road, Coppull, near Chorley, were charged together with the wilful murder of Richard Bannister (29), a market gardener, of New Club Street, Croston.

Superintendent Hogg said that the facts in the case had been placed before the Director of Public Prosecutions, and he asked for a remand until December 29.

The youths were remanded until this date, legal aid being granted.

TO-DAY'S SHIPPING.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS

TO AND FROM PORT OF BELFAST.

Arrived on the 24th inst.:—

The ss Clydebrae from Whitehaven, the ss Lagan from Troon, the ss Ophir from Preston, the ss Glendun, ss Corbet, ss Blacksod, ss Kingstown, ss Kylemount from Garston, the ss Gracehill from Ayr, the ss May from Workington, and the ss Balmarino from Glasgow—all with coal.

Sailed on the 24th inst.:—

The ss King Egbert for San Pedro, the ss Bosnia for Casablanca, the ss Carrickmacross and ss Gracehill for Glasgow, the ss Whin for Widnes.

Arrived at Ayr on the 24th inst., the ss Bengore Head (Sloan) from Belfast.

Sailed from Liepaja on the 23rd inst., the ss Dunmore Head (Kelso) for Belfast.

Sailed from Hamburg on the 23rd inst., the ss Fair Head (Alexander) for Belfast.

TWO WORKMEN DEAD.

GASOMETER SPRANG LEAK.

A verdict of death by misadventure was recorded at the inquest at Ipswich yesterday on Reginald Wilfred Vinyard (40), of Alan Road, Ipswich, and George Lewis Overett (33), of Vandyck Road, Ipswich, employes at Ipswich Gas Light Co., who were killed when a giant gasometer in Patterson Road, Ipswich, sprang a leak on Tuesday.

A third man, George Wright, who entered a gas-filled inspection cage in a rescue effort is still ill.

The gas company was exonerated from blame by the jury.

D.W.D. Whiskey, the safest stimulant for Christmas and all other good times. 0516

BELFAST EXCHANGE

THE WEEKLY SURVEY.

VERY QUIET CONDITIONS.

PRICE TREND AGAIN LOWER.

Extremely quiet conditions prevailed on the Belfast Stock Exchange during the past week and the general trend of prices was again lower.

British Government securities were weak but quotations rallied considerably before the close. War Loan changed hands at 98, 98⅛, 97⅞, 98, 97 11-16, 13-16, ⅞, ⅝, ¾, ⅝, 9-16, 11-16, 7-16, and finally at 97⅜—97⅝. 2½ per cent. Consols were recorded at 69 13-16, 4 per cent. Consols at 106⅛, 5 per cent. Conversion Loan at 109 1-16, and Local Loans at 82½ and 82⅝. 2¾ per cent. Land Stock 1891 fetched 93, and 4½ per cent Guaranteed Bonds 110⅛.

Bank shares were a firmer market. Northern Bank "A" gained 1s 3d on the week, changing hands several times at 90s, leaving off with buyers now bidding 88s 9d and no further sellers in the market. "B" shares are enquired for at 42s and offered at 44s, after business was marked at 45s and 44s. Midland Bank Part Paid brought 9 13-32 and 9 17-32, National Provincial Bank "B" 69s and Westminster Banks Parts hardened to 90s.

In local Corporation and Public Boards, although business was not active, stock offering was readily absorbed. Belfast 3½ per cent. 1940 fetched 98⅞ and 3½ per cent. 1942 issue 99⅝. The latter closed with this price still bid. 6½ per cent. Mortgages 1941 were dealt in at 105. Water Commissioners 3½ per cent. 1963 stock marked 96. Harbour 3½ per cent. 1961-68 stock was bid for at 96.

Local Rails continued rather neglected. Belfast and County Down Ordinary was asked for at 2 with sellers holding for 5. There are also buyers of the 4 per cent Debenture at 39 9-16. Great Northern Ordinary was done at 4 and closed with this price bid and sellers at 5. Four per cent. Debenture was enquired for at 46½.

In Industrials, Spinning and Textiles were featureless. Belfast Ropework Ordinary are in market at 16s 1½d, with buyers bidding 15s 6d. Preference continued in demand at 11. British Celanese were done at 3s 10½d and J. and P. Coats Ordinary at 35s 4½d. Some Old Bleach Linen Preference can be had at 8s 10½d. Richardson Sons & Owden Ordinary and Preference are in request at 8s and 31s 6d respectively. York Street Ordinary are offered at 7s 6d and Preference at 13s 6d with buyers of the former at 5s and of the latter at 12s. British Cotton and Wool Dyers fetched 3s 1d.

In the Bakery group, Inglis & Co. Ordinary were lower, changing hands at 72s 6d, closing with buyers at 70s and no sellers under 75s. Preference are in demand at 27s and Debentures at 115s 9d. There was no change in Bernard Hughes Ordinary or Preference.

Brewery and Distillery shares were scarcely mentioned.

Among Drapery and Furnishing shares Robertson Ledlie Ferguson Ordinary relapsed to 16s, business being recorded at this price, and market closed with sellers at this and buyers at 15s 6d. The demand continued for John Arnott Ordinary at 50s with sellers holding for 55s. Debentures are also enquired for at 85.

Robert Watsons Preference were quoted 17s 3d ex dividend in the early part of the week.

Tobacco shares were generally steady, though the quotation for British Americans was lower at 4 11-16 ex div. Gallahers remained round 128s 1½d. Imperial Tobacco of Great Britain were dealt in at 129s 9d at the beginning of the week.

Miscellaneous Industrials generally were idle. American shares were on the dull side. Brazil Tractions marked 9 11-16.

Iron and Steel counters tended to strengthen on the announcement of the 20 million pound A.R.P. order. Harland & Wolff "B" Ordinary fetched 5s 0½d, and Dorman Longs 23s 4½d.

Elsewhere Dunlops changed hands at 23s 1½d, Lever Bros. and Unilever 36s 1½d, and Maypole Defd. 2s 6½d. Rolls Royce were dealt in 5 7-16 xd, British Oxygen New Preference at 23s 11½d, English Electric at 33s, and Hawker Siddeleys at 23s 9d. Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers Ordinary changed hands at 65s, Anglo-American Investment at 22s 8½d, Western Holdings 13s, Lake View and Star 19s 3d, Vlakfontein Gold 29s, Gold Coast Main Reefs Notes 5½d premium, and Packard Motors at 4 9-16, Shell Transports 81s 4½d.

NOTICE.

The Stock Exchange and Brokers' offices will be closed on Monday 26th and Tuesday 27th inst., being London Stock Exchange holidays.

Local Stocks.	Shares	Paid up	Price	Dividends per ann.	Yield per cent.
Ulster 3½%	100	100	101⅞	3½	3 8 9
Do. 4½%	100	100	105	4½	4 5 9
Do. 5%	100	100	112¼	5	4 9 1
Guaranteed 4½%	100	100	110¾	4½	4 1 3
Northern Bank A	10	2	90/0	10½	4 13 4
Do. B	10	2	44/0	5¼	4 15 5
National	5	1	52/6	12	4 11 5
Provincial Bank	5	1	53/0	12½	4 14 4
Midland Bank	12	2½	9 9/16	16	4 3 8
Do.	2½	2½	10⅛	16	3 17 0
Westminster Bank	4	1	90/3	20	4 8 8
Gt. Northern Rly.	100	100	4	—	—
Do. 4%Deb.	100	100	46½	4	8 12 0
Do. 4%Pref.	100	100	6	—	—
B. & C. D. Rly	100	100	1¼	—	—
Do. 4% Deb.	100	100	39 9/16	4	10 2 1
Do. 3% Deb.	100	100	38 13/16	3	7 14 1
L M S	100	100	12⅜	1½	11 15 8
Great Western	100	100	27½	3½	12 14 6
Belfast Corp.					
Do. 1940	100	100	98⅞	3½	3 10 9
Do. 1942	100	100	99⅝	3½	3 10 3
Do. 1945	100	100	108⅛	5	4 12 6
Do. 1945/56	100	100	107⅜	5	4 12 11
Do. 1955	100	100	92⅞	3	3 4 7
Do. 1951	100	100	107¼	4½	4 3 11
Do. 1973	100	100	99	3½	3 10 8
Do. 1957	100	100	95½	3¼	3 8 4
Belfast Corp. Mort.					
Do. 1945	100	100	*94⅛	3	3 3 9
Do. 1950	100	100	96⅝	3¼	3 7 5
Do. 1943/49/53	100	100	99¼	3½	3 10 6
Do. 1941	100	100	105	6½	6 3 10
Do. 1940	100	100	100	5	5 0 0
Do. 1940	100	100	98⅛	4½	4 11 6
Do. 1945	100	100	*104⅝	4½	4 6 4
Do. 1950	100	100	*106 1/16	4½	4 4 11
Harbour, 19'3/58	100	100	96 11/16	3½	3 12 5
Do. 1961/68	100	100	96	3½	3 12 11
Do. 1972/81	100	100	96	3½	3 12 11
Water.					
Do. 5% 1945/61	100	100	107½	5	4 13 0
Do. 5% 1950/60	100	100	111¼	5	4 9 11
Do. 3½% 1963	100	100	96	3½	3 12 11
Do. 3% 1953/58	100	100	*91⅛	3	3 5 6
Do. 3½% 1953/63	100	100	100	3½	3 10 0
N.I. Electric Gtd. 1955/60	100	100	*91⅞	3	3 5 3
Belfast Rope Ord.	Stk	£1	16/1½	4	4 19 3
Do. Pref.	10	10	11	5	4 10 11
J. & P. Coats	Stk	£1	35/6	10	5 12 8
Linen Thread Ord.	Stk	£1	30/3	8½	5 12 5
Do. Pref. Ord.	Stk	£1	23/3	6	5 3 3
Do. Pref.	Stk	£1	21/9	5	4 11 11
Old Bleach 6%Pref	£1	£1	7/0	6	
Richardson Sons & Owden, Ord	5	5	8/0	—	—
5% Pref.	5	5	30/0	—	—
York Street Ord.	Stk	£1	5/0	—	—
Do. 6% Pref.	Stk	£1	12/0	6	10 0 0
Do. 4 % Deb.	100	100	*82⅞	4½	5 9 3
B. Hughes Ord.	1	1	*34/3	10	5 16 9
Do. Pref.	1	1	*24/6	6	4 16 0
Do. Deb.	10	10	*11½	5	4 6 11
Inglis Ord	1	1	72/6	17½	4 16 7
Do. Pref.	1	1	*27/0	6	4 8 11
Do. Deb.	5	5	115/9	5	4 6 5
Distillers	1	1	88/3	22½	5 1 5
Guinness	1	1	105/0	29	5 10 6
Arnott Ord	5	5	55/0	4	7 5 6
Do. Deb.	100	100	86	4½	5 4 8
Goorwitch, Ltd. Ord	5/-	5/-	5/0	—	—
Do. Pref.	1	1	*17/0	6	7 1 2
Robertson, Ledlie Ord.	1	1	16/0	6	7 10 0
Do. Pref.	1	1	22/6	6	5 6 8
R. Cleaver Pref.	1	1	21/1½	5	4 14 8
Do. Deb.	100	100	98¼	4	4 1 8
R. Watson Ord.	10	10	*10 5/16	10	9 14 0
Do. Pref.	1	1	17/3	5	5 15 11
Young & Anderson Pref.	1	1	1/9	—	—
Fairbairn Ord.	1	1	9d	—	—
Harland & W. "B" Ord.	Stk	1	5/0	—	—
B. A. Tobacco	Stk	£1	93/9	†20	4 5 4
Do. 6% Pref.	Stk	£1	29/6	6	4 1 4
Gallahers Ordy.	1	1	128/1½	27½	4 5 10
Do. Pref.	1	1	30/0	6½	4 6 8
Imperial Tobacco	Stk	£1	128/9	†25	3 17 8
Leahy Kelly Ord.	5	5	11½	13½	5 17 5
Sawers Ord.	1	1	20/6	6	5 17 1
Do. Pref.	1	1	19/7½	5	5 1 10
W.M.Cuthbert Ord	5/-	5/-	38/0	40	5 5 3
Do. Pref.	1	1	27/0	6	4 8 11
Dunlops	Stk	£1	23/0	9	7 16 6
Forster Green	5	5	5	6	6 0 0
Lever Bros. 7% Pf.	Stk	£1	28/6	7	4 18 3
Do. 8% Pf.	Stk	£1	30/3	8	5 5 10
Martin Estates	10	10	6⅝	4	4 5 4
M'Caw Pref.	1	1	13/1½	5	7 12 4
Do. Deb.	100	100	88⅝	4½	5 1 10
Vulcanite Ord.	5/-	5/-	*16/6	40	12 2 6
Wardens Ord.	5	5			
Do. Pref	5	5	*3 13/16	5	6 11 2
White Tomlins Ord.	1	1	34/4½	10	5 17 0
Do Pref	1	1	22/6	5	4 8 11
N. I. T'port 4% A	100	100	101	4	3 19 3
Do 5% B	100	100	30	—	—

† Free of tax. * Ex dividend.

CHRISTMAS WILL NOT BE WHITE.

MILDER CONDITIONS.

FROST IS NOT SO KEEN.

TEMPERATURE RISING IN ENGLAND

Heavy fog hung over Belfast this morning, following a night in which the frost was not so keen.

The improvement is reflected in the report from the Aldergrove weather station of the Royal Air Force.

Temperature last night at four feet was 25 degrees, and on the ground 17 degrees—eight degrees less frost than the previous night.

Those who were looking forward to a "white Christmas" are likely to be disappointed, because the indications at the moment are that conditions will be milder.

There is likely to be frost again to-night, but not of such severity as that experienced during the past week.

There were three boats from Heysham this morning, each packed with folks coming home for Christmas. They will note that there will be three steamers returning on Tuesday night.

On the Liverpool route there were two boats, one of which was delayed by the heavy train service in England and by fog in Belfast Lough, and she did not berth until 10 o'clock.

Roads in County Tyrone are absolutely free of snow and ice, and motoring is safe.

The only difficulty experienced is in connection with the water supplies, which have become frozen up, and may seriously interfere with the Christmas cooking arrangements.

Skating enthusiasts in the Omagh district are finding plenty of sport at Lough Muck, where there is a coating of ice to a depth of seven inches. The entire lough is frozen, a condition which has not existed for at least 30 years. At night the lough is illuminated by torches erected on tripods placed in the centre, and skating is carried on until a late hour.

WATER BORROWING

FEATURE OF DERRY LIFE.

FOG DELAYS FOYLE SHIPPING.

The latest innovation in Derry, due to the severe climatic conditions, is the "borrowing" of water. In a number of houses, particularly houses of the villa type erected in recent years, freezing water pipes have refused to react to the charms of the plumber.

The difficulty has been increased by the freezing of the main water supply underground. Consequently housewives thus affected in the midst of their Christmas preparations are compelled to get water from their more fortunate neighbours, who had taken the precaution earlier of allowing their taps to drip.

This continuous dripping of water, which is necessary to counteract the freezing, it is estimated, must have caused a waste of many thousands of gallons.

Fog in the Foyle has caused severe shipping delay in Derry. The Burns Laird steamer Lairdsrose, which left Glasgow on Friday night, should have arrived at Derry at six a.m. to-day, but was held up at Culmore.

The fog blanket gradually lifted and shortly after noon the Lairdsrose which had nosed her way cautiously up the Foyle docked at Derry. She had on board 450 passengers for whose comfort during their involuntary hold-up at Culmore Captain M'Callum and his officers did everything possible. Shortly afterwards the cargo vessel Ulster Castle arrived, being nine hours late.

Following the inspection of the course, officials of the North of Ireland Motor Club have indefinitely postponed a fixture for Tuesday next. This was to have taken the form of a sporting trial. When the officials inspected the course they found that the hilly section was completely unclimbable owing to the frost.

SLIGHT THAW IN ENGLAND.

The Automobile Association in England reported shortly before noon to-day that there had been little change throughout the country in the condition of roads affected by snow and ice.

A slight thaw had set in in some districts, but difficulty was still being experienced.

At noon to-day the temperature in London was 35, as against 29 on Friday and 33 on Thursday. There will be intermittent snow showers.

FROST CAUSED WIDOW'S DEATH.

Frost fractured a gas service pipe and caused the death of a Plymouth woman, it was stated at the inquest at Plymouth yesterday on Albertina Ellen Gage (79), a widow, of High Street, Plymouth.

It was stated that gas escaped from a broken pipe outside the house and percolated through loose soil and the floor boards into the bedroom where Mrs. Gage was sleeping.

Death was due to coal gas poisoning, and a verdict of accidental death was returned.

COLLAPSED AND DIED IN ROAD.

A 63-year-old railway messenger at Ipswich Station, William Horne, of Heath Cottages, Fordham, collapsed by the side of the road at Eight Ash Green, near Colchester, and was dead when admitted to Colchester Hospital. It is believed that he died from the cold.

FOOTBALL MATCHES OFF.

The following Scottish League, Division I., games have been postponed owing to the unfit state of the ground:—

Kilmarnock v. Motherwell.
Albion Rovers v. Ayr United.

RHINE TRAFFIC AT STANDSTILL.

BERLIN, Friday.—Weather conditions in Germany, and in particular the heavy snowfalls in nearly all parts, have occasioned long delays to the Reich postal services. The Post Office announced to-day that it would be impossible to deliver part of the Christmas parcel post by December 25, but that some deliveries would be made on Boxing Day in compensation, wires the "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post" correspondent.

There was a considerable fall in temperature in the Ruhr area last night, Dortmund reporting a reading of 5 degrees Fahrenheit. Traffic on the Rhine is now completely at a standstill, and the conditions on the Moselle have become worse.

SEVEN-YEAR GIRL'S LONG VOYAGE.

6,000-MILE TRIP TO ULSTER.

DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE LINER.

Completing a 6,000 mile lone journey to Ulster on the C.P.R. liner Duchess of Atholl on Friday, seven-year-old Irene Rose M'Cullough nearly caused a three a.m. contretemps in Belfast Lough.

She had grown so attached to the ship, and became so fond of the stewardess in whose care she had been during the voyage, that when the time came for her to embark on the tender for Belfast Irene tearfully exclaimed "I don't want to leave the ship."

It took several moments of gentle persuasion before the young traveller responded to the lure of the good things she was told Santa Claus had in store for her here.

Daughter of Mr. Frank M'Cullough, of Regina, Saskatchewan, Irene's mother died recently and her father sent her for a Christmas holiday trip to her grandfather, Mr. John Duff, of High Street, Carrickfergus.

Helping to decorate the Christmas tree in her new home to-day Irene was well on the way to forgetting how insistent she had been on a Yuletide at sea.

ULSTER'S DEFENCES

DERRY A.A. BATTERY COMMANDER

COL. G. L. S. SMITH APPOINTED

LATELY BACK FROM MALTA

THE "TELEGRAPH" LEARNS THAT LIEUT.-COLONEL G. L. S. SMITH, O.B.E., M.C., WHO RECENTLY RETURNED FROM MALTA, HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO COMMAND THE ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTERY TO BE RAISED IN LONDONDERRY.

HIS ADJUTANT WILL BE CAPTAIN J. G. TYRRELL, OF THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

As announced recently, anti-aircraft and searchlight batteries are to be formed in Belfast, Londonderry, Ballymena, and Lurgan, while light batteries will be located at Coleraine and Newtownards.

Lieut.-Col. Smith, who it is expected will take up duty shortly, will superintend the organisation of the A.A. batteries, but recruiting will not open until about March next year.

He entered the Army as a subaltern in the Royal Artillery in 1911, and five years later was promoted captain.

From 1917-18 Lt.-Col. Smith was adjutant, and from 1918 to 1919 was acting major.

Most of his service was in the Near East, and for a period he was stationed in Mesopotamia.

He has considerable staff service, and from 1920-21 occupied the position of Deputy Assistant Controller at the War Office. Subsequently he was staff captain at the War Office for two years.

In 1929 he was appointed major, and five years later went to Malta as Major-Instructor in Gunnery, a position which he held for over three years.

Lieut.-Col. Smith has a distinguished Army career, and served throughout the Great War, being awarded the Military Cross.

It is expected that Colonel P. L. Vining, the Brigadier commanding the anti-aircraft troops in Northern Ireland, will pay a visit to the Province next week, and that Lord O'Neill, H.M.L., president of the Co. Antrim Territorial Army and Air Force Association, will also be in Belfast.

A considerable amount of organisation will be necessary before the Brigades come into being, and it will be necessary to choose the sites, etc., for the drill halls to be erected.

OPERA HOUSE PANTO

OPENING PERFORMANCE TO-NIGHT.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."

THE DRESS REHEARSAL.

Young and old can look forward with every confidence to an enjoyable feast at the "Babes in the Wood" pantomime, the first performance of which will be given to-night in the Belfast Opera House. This is one of the most enchanting of the many nursery tales that have been adopted for Yuletide entertainment. It tells of Robin Hood, the prince of outlaws, who with his merry men occupied the forest of Sherwood, and relieved the rich in order to appease the needs of the poor; of the bad baron who wanted to get rid of the babes in order to inherit their money; of the two rascals whom he bribed to carry out his nefarious plans; and of the many chivalrous and romantic happenings which followed.

In addition to the magic sylvan perspective of the Sherwood dell and the other scenes provided to illustrate the story there are outstanding features, notably that of the "Palace of Dreams" in which the final stages of the show are enacted.

At last night's rehearsal the crowd, so essential for an adequate atmosphere, was missed, but the members of the Press and the few others invited to watch the try-out were favourably impressed. Two suggestions will not be out of place. The slapstick comedy in the wall-papering scene must be gingered up and the schoolhouse burlesque improved. On Friday night they lacked pep but much can be made of them. Otherwise there was nothing to cavil at and much to enthuse over and admire.

ROBIN AND MAID MARIAN.

The panto opened in a bright and merry turn and the ensembles were beautifully planned and executed. Hannah Watt, otherwise Robin Hood (the outlawed Earl of Huntingdon), was ideal in the role. She has a fine dashing presence and a voice of robust charm, which is much appreciated in many numbers. Two of her most successful were "Merrily we roll along" and "Down and out Blues." The theme centres around a girl who was once a pal and it has that ingratiating rhythm which audiences like.

Bobbie Cooper looks lovely as Maid Marian and her contribution to the success of the performance is indispensable. She has the gift of artless artistry and her songs are rendered as naturally as anything could be. She was applauded greatly for "You couldn't be sweeter" and "In a little toy sailboat." She also dances gracefully.

Richard Hassett as Dame Trott, the village schoolmistress, was always amusing. He never failed to get the right angle and his acting was greatly enjoyed. He scored with "Under the chestnut tree" and this should prove a big hit.

The Baron's place was well taken by Norman Bowyer, who was as bad as bad could be and only relented when his wicked designs were frustrated by the hero of the story.

The Egbert brothers, the knockabout comedians of the panto, put any amount of vim into their drolleries and they will be favourites.

Sheila Brodie as the Fairy looked bewitching in her robe of white and elfin crown.

A special word of praise must be given to the Babes, personated by Renee Kiff and Lilian Raymond.

Prominent in the cast also was Nell Crighton, the friend of the outlaw.

WEE GEORGIE WOOD.

We have reserved for the last the greatest of all the characters—Wee Georgie Wood, who plays the part of the mischievous Johnny Green, a "lad" in every sense of the word. It is needless to enlarge on the acting gifts of this notable star of the vaudeville stage. Suffice to say that he brings the same resource and distinction to the part as he has done to the comedy creations for which he is so famous.

Special features include the Revels of the Butterflies, with Valerie Wainwright as solo dancer. This is a spectacle to be talked about for its poetic and moving charm.

Bernard Steele and Sheila Brodie, exponents of Scottish folk songs, captivated all before the footlights by their vital personalities and the expression with which they imbued all their songs. This will be a most popular act.

Specialities are also given by the Eight Step Sisters, the Six Corrigan Kiddies, Nell Crighton, Georgie Wood, and the Egbert Brothers.

The entire pantomime is produced under the direction of Fred Tripp with dances and ensembles by that experienced ballet mistress, Bettina Merson.

The orchestra and full London chorus is under the direction of Mr. Dudley Hare.

RAVISHING ATTIRE

WORN BY THE PRINCIPALS.

GORGEOUSLY CLAD OUTLAWS.

From the opening chorus, when Robin Hood and his outlaws appeared in their colourful green and tan, to the climax—the Palace of Dreams—the stage settings were a fitting complement for the lovely costumes that were worn in the show.

Bobbie Cooper, as Maid Marion, wears frocks that if copied for evening wear would make any girl the belle of the ball. She made her first appearance in a demure gown of hyacinth blue taffeta with huge puffed sleeves of white organdie. The wide skirt was banded with clover velvet, and the same colour note was introduced on the Victorian bonnet of pale blue straw.

A Dubarry gown of powder blue satin over flower sprigged muslin was effectively trimmed with palest pink velvet ribbon, and perhaps her loveliest gown was that which she wore at the Baron's reception. It was of orchid pink poult worn over ivory silk lace. In one scene the frocks worn by the chorus made a bright splash of colour. Some were brocaded in Dubarry style and such colour combinations as petunia and mauve, blue and gold, coral and apple green, and silver and black chiffon give inspiration to the girl who is thinking of buying an evening frock.

It would be impossible to describe fully the gorgeous costumes worn by Hannah Watt as Robin Hood. A mauve brocaded tunic, a fichu and cuffs of exquisite lace in which diamonds sparkled, black satin tights, a velvet tricorne hat with a sweeping black ostrich feather completed a striking outfit, but in the final scene her costume was even more lovely. She was simply resplendent in white satin tights sparkling with diamante worn under a flowing cloak of black velvet lined with scarlet satin. She had a cockade of red and white ostrich feathers in her hat. In this scene Maid Marion was bewitching in a full-length gown of ivory ninon fashioned with a full skirt. She wore a cape of white ostrich feathers, and her veil of ivory lace was surmounted by a wreath of bridal blossoms.

Yards and yards of material were in the skirts of the white [illegible] silk frocks worn by the Eight Step Sisters, and as they whirled to and fro with their white tights the yards of material in the wide skirts were shown with great effect.

Nell Crighton, in the role of Will Scarlett, wore a distinctive outfit when she gave solo numbers. The tunic was of apple green chiffon velvet and [illegible] a flared skirt. A smart velvet Glengarry which boasted two feathers (green and blue) might be copied to advantage for afternoon wear.

TUESDAY'S RACING FORECASTS.

SELECTIONS BY "BURNABY."

KEMPTON AND WOLVERHAMPTON.

The Kempton and Wolverhampton stewards have postponed their programmes till Tuesday owing to ground conditions making racing on Monday impossible.

I expect Bel et Bon to win Kempton Park's £1,000 race, the King George VI. 'Chase.

This race is worth more than the total of the remaining five events on the programme.

Bel et Bon will be opposed by the Cheltenham Gold Cup winner Morse Code and Macaulay who has had several brilliant performances to his credit last season.

I give Bel et Bon as he is my own choice, but will be fitter than the other two horses.

Morse Code and Macaulay seemed to be rather slow in coming to hand this season, and the recent spell of bad weather is likely to have interfered with their schooling work.

The safest bet at Wolverhampton may be Galadale, who will attempt to concede weight all round in the Wyfold Maiden Hurdle.

Galadale was a winner last time out, and the opposition to him appears moderate.

The Christmas Handicap Steeplechase I shall leave to Montrejeau II., who was runner-up in his two recent races.

He may find Dinton Lad to be his most dangerous opponent. Selections:—

KEMPTON PARK.

1- 0—SEA TROUT.
1-30—SAMPAN II.
2- 0—CELIBATE II.
2-30—BEL ET BON (Nap).
3- 0—BRYAN O'LINN.
3-30—FARSI.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

12-45—MONTCALM.
1-15—TELEPHONE.
1-45—GALADALE.
2-15—PORTPATRICK.
2-45—MONTREJEAU II.
3-15—EMBARRASSED.

Double:—
BEL ET BON and GALADALE.

MONDAY'S RACING.

FOUR CARDS POSTPONED.

TUESDAY'S FIXTURES UNCERTAIN.

Racing at Kempton Park, Wincanton, and Wolverhampton has been postponed until Tuesday.

Following an inspection at noon to-day the Kempton Park Stewards decided to postpone the first day's card until Tuesday and abandoned Tuesday's programme.

The Wolverhampton Stewards to-day postponed Monday's programme until Tuesday and have abandoned Tuesday's card.

The Stewards at Kempton will meet again at noon on Monday to decide about racing on Tuesday.

The Sedgefield Meeting, fixed for Boxing Day, was to-day abandoned owing to snow.

Christmas Greetings

THE EVE OF CHRISTMAS

Last-minute Suggestions for the Cook

I wonder why it is that to children Christmas is always such a long time coming that the suspense during the period in which mysterious parcels are firmly locked in cupboards becomes almost unbearable—while the busy housewife almost invariably finds Christmas upon her before she is half ready for it. So many odd things are left to the last minute that Christmas Eve often proves the busiest day of the whole year. If you are feeling rushed to death at the moment, here are a few suggestions that you may find useful.

For The Cook.

The turkey is too big for the oven! That often happens, and the poor cook is at her wits' end to know how best to manage. Usually she decides to roast one end of it first, and then the other, but a much better plan is to cut off the legs and cook them separately. You can replace them afterwards with small wooden skewers.

Or you bought your turkey early, and you are wondering if it is still perfectly fresh. Wipe it over with a cloth wrung out in vinegar and water, and you can be sure that this will remove any slight staleness.

The jellies have been forgotten and maybe they won't be stiff in time! Use only about three quarters of the stated quantity of water in mixing the jelly, and stand it in a large bowl of cold water, containing equal quantities of salt and soda. It will then stiffen in less than half the usual time.

If you think you may have one or two unexpected guests, and want to have something in mind which you can prepare in a minimum of time, here are some ideas.

A new way with baked apples: core the apples and stuff them with mincemeat. When cooked, pile a spoonful of stiffly whipped cream on top and crown with a glace cherry.

And with bananas: cut up the bananas and arrange in a glass dish with alternate layers of chopped dates and walnuts. Finish off with a pile of whipped white of egg, which can, if you like, be coloured with cochineal.

And here are some easily made savouries which, served with coffee, make an excellent supper snack.

Cut some rounds of bread about the size of a five shilling piece and either toast or fry them. Allow to cool and cover with any of the following mixtures: fried mushrooms sprinkled with chopped onion; scrambled egg and a slice of gherkin; cold turkey or sausage with turkey stuffing; anchovy paste garnished with shredded watercress; minced ham mixed with a little mayonnaise; cream cheese mixed with chopped walnuts; chopped bacon and hard boiled egg mixed with a little creamed butter; soft roes with grated cheese.

The Christmas Tree.

If, when you come to dress the Christmas tree, it looks a bit bare, try some of the following ways of filling up odd spaces.

Real pine cones painted with glue and covered with "frost," gaily wrapped chocolate liqueurs tied on by the bottle necks; twists of barley sugar in coloured paper; tangerines stuck full of cloves; oranges with paper hats and faces cut out of the peel. If you have any odd strips of pastry over when making mince pies, roll in a few carroway seeds and form them into "spectacles" (two circles joined together) bake until crisp, and hang them on the tree with tinsel or ribbon. Little pastry men with currant eyes are always a big attraction, and golliwogs which can be made in a few minutes from odd scraps of wool, are highly popular with grown-ups as well as children.

I Greet You All.

And now, here's wishing you all a very happy Christmas; whether full of fun, or quiet and peaceful, whichever you have chosen, may you all enjoy yourselves!—(Copyrights reserved).

Evelyn Hays

We wish for you

All happiness and joy,
Good luck and health,
A share of wealth,
And nothing to annoy.

* * *

As Joseph was a-walking
He heard an angel sing:
This night there shall be born
On earth our heavenly King.

He neither shall be born
In housen nor in hall,
Nor in the place of Paradise,
But in an ox's stall.
—(Part II. Cherry Tree Carol.)

* * *

—And After Christmas—Spring Fashions

Although it is too early to speak very definitely of spring fashions in all its details, the revival of two old favourites has been promised—the jumper suit and the coat frock.

This will be good news to most of us, as both garments are such useful additions to the wardrobe, being suitable to wear on a variety of occasions.

The wholesale houses are also preparing for an increasing interest in suits, particularly in tweed, light woollens and jersey materials, for sports, street, and home wear generally.

It is expected that the frock with matching jacket will make a wide appeal.

Suits and frocks of all kinds are being finished in many interesting ways with details, such as quilting, insertions, clever seaming or embroidery, which affords an opportunity for the girl who enjoys fancy needle work to make use of her own work in a practical way.

The longer jacket is prophesied as one of the differences in the newest suits. Collarless necklines will be popular again, which allow pretty colour effects to be introduced in neckwear, and when the suit is in a plain material, changes of details make considerable differences in the general appearance.

To Brighten Necks and Wrists.

Tasteful wool embroidery on plain woollen material gives it a surprisingly choice appearance and turns a comparatively inexpensive garment into one which suggests the luxury shop!

One such dressing gown in blue flannel had a small posy on collar, waistband and sleeves in pastel shades, worked in course buttonhole stitches, the colours of the posy being blue, pink, maize and green.

It is enough sometimes to do plain buttonholing on the front opening and at the wrists. Or if the collar is quite unstitched, a little edging on the simplest lines is all that is necessary, such as three lines of darning, the stitches and spaces between being about ½ inch long, the latter are then filled in with three stitches in the opposite direction in contrasting shades.

Don't overdo the decoration; each garment must be treated individually, and what suits one frock will not necessarily look well on another. Colours must be considered carefully, also the existing trimmings, or stitchery, if any, on the frock, as well as the tastes and appearance of wearer.

One of the outstanding models at a recent fashion show was a dinner gown of black silk taffeta, cut on very modern lines, fitting the hips slimly and flowing out at the lower part. The black was relieved by touches of wool stitchery. A kind of flat girdle, less than 2 inches wide, was worn round the slim figure just on or below the hips. It consisted of several rows of close woolwork on a flat foundation, the wool being in vivid green, blue and fuchsia shades, and was continued to make a tie-up with tassel ends hanging down in front.

Similar trimming outlined the heart-shaped corsage, the top of which was edged with fan-shaped pleated black lace of gossamer texture.

Crochetted Wool Buttonholes.

Crochetted wool buttonholes in bright colours are being worn on tweeds and many woollens, on coat or frock, and as hat trimmings.

Charming artificial floral buttonholes are often worn with excellent effect in place of the more ordinary brooch on indoor frocks and jacket suits. They are inexpensive and easily replaced when shabby.

By the bye, if you use rouge or lipstick, and have bought a new frock in one of the soft wine shades, do be careful to see that your rouge or lip-stick blends suitably with the frock.

Applique Trimmings.

These are usually stitched on the right side of the garment, but a very lovely dance frock in cobwebby cream lace, had silk appliques arranged on the under side of the lace, thus adding to its fairy-like appearance.

Groups of flowers were cut out of taffeta or similar silk and stitched on to the back of the lace in suitable positions on the skirt and sleeves in fine silk.

Christmas Festivities In London

An Ulsterwoman's Diary

Well, it looks like being a real traditional Christmas with snow and zero temperature. I have always believed that such a Christmas is much more pleasant in recollection or imagination than in reality, and in London during the past week, where we have shivered and watched the snow fall and dreaded going out of doors, I am more than ever inclined to that belief.

The desire for ready-made amusements and for lessening the trouble to the hostess has in recent years somewhat affected the number of traditional house parties; more and more entertaining has been done in the large hotels, and what the intimate family party may have lost of its essential spirit it gained by the quality of the amusement provided and also by enabling a housewife who rarely had a spare moment, to enjoy the festivities as much as her family and guests.

One family that has always observed the best of the Christmas traditions is the Royal family, and this year the members of it will meet at Sandringham. Queen Mary is staying there with the King and Queen and little Princesses, and other members of the party are the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke and Duchess of Kent, with Prince Edward and Princess Alexandra, whose second birthday it is. A very popular interlude at Sandringham is the distribution of gifts from a huge Christmas tree to the children of the estate employes. This will take place in the ballroom and the King and Queen and Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret will help in stripping the tree.

The Londonderrys are having a family Christmas party at Wynyard Park, Stockton-on-Tees. Amongst the members of the party will be Lord and Lady Castlereagh, Lady Helen and Mr. Edward Jessel, Lady Mairi Stewart, the Hon. Mrs. Richard Hoare, sister of Lady Londonderry, and her three children, Henry, Hugh and Helen. Lady Londonderry's book, "Retrospect," is, I hear, going very well, and much admiration has been expressed for the fact that a woman who has interested herself in so many activities, and who continues to lead a very busy life, should have found the time and the patience to sit down and write this book. Truly it would seem that those who are busiest find most time to do things.

In The Social World

The fact that New Year's Day falls on a Sunday this year means that many dances usually held on New Year's Eve have had to be arranged for an earlier date. The Old Campbellian Society will hold their 27th annual dance on Wednesday, December 28, in the Grand Central Hotel, where Mr. J. C. Taylor (president of the Society) and Mrs. Taylor will receive the guests.

Ballyholme Yacht Club are holding their annual carnival dance in Caproni's, Bangor, on December 30. This is always a jolly affair, and this year should be no exception.

For the same evening, Balmoral Golf Club have arranged their New Year's dance to be held in the Clubhouse, and it goes without saying that it will be a popular event.

And now for 1939!

The Marchioness of Londonderry has given her patronage to the Scrabo Golf Club supper dance, which is to be held in the Plaza on Thursday, January 12.

"Friday the 13th" has been set apart for the N.S.P.C.C. Cruelty Ball in the Grand Central Hotel. As well as being one of the most important functions of the season from a social point of view, it is also one of the smartest from a feminine point of view. Mr. Maurice B. Sproull (secretary) and the committee are working hard for its success, and, judging by the results of previous years, they will not be disappointed.

Parties are very much in the air just now, and despite the awful weather they have been well attended. A brilliant one given the other night was that by Mme. van Swindern, whose husband used to be Netherlands Minister. Many of the best-known society people were there, and there were some lovely young folk, including the Duchess of Abercorn's grandchildren, Miss Vivien and Miss Ursula Kenyon-Slaney. The Duchess of Abercorn is expected in town early in the New Year.

Victorian Bridesmaids.

Lady Dufferin's little girl, Lady Perdita Blackwood, is to be a bridesmaid on Thursday at the wedding of Lady Patricia Guinness to Mr. Lennox Boyd, M.P. Lady Patricia is a daughter of Lord and Lady Iveagh, and Lady Perdita is a great-niece of Lord Iveagh. This wedding will be one of the most notable of 1938, and the dresses to be worn at it will revive early Victorian styles. The bride has chosen a gown made on modern lines, but for her small bridesmaids she has chosen white organdi dresses with wide crinoline skirts, banded with frills over frilled pantaloons. The frocks will have blue velvet sashes. The children will also wear poke bonnets of white hatters' plush lined with organdi frills. The pages, who include the Hon. Arthur Guinness, Desmond Guinness, and the Hon. Shaun Plunket, will wear toppers of hatters' plush with their long trousers of white face cloth, short blue face cloth jackets, and organdi shirts with blue bow ties at the neck. The grown-up bridesmaids will wear royal blue velvet crinolines mounted on wired hoops.

Ulster Successes.

A young Belfast man, Will Leighton, is, I hear, having a "fan" mail from children who listen in to his broadcasts in the children's hour in the National programme. Will, who is married to Madame Drinkwater's daughter, Carmen, is anxious to make his name on the West End stage, and though this is far from being an easy profession in which to make one's way, he has had some notable successes. Recently he played in Theresa Deevy's play, "Katie Roche," produced at the Torch Theatre, the new experimental theatre in Knightsbridge. Lennox Robinson, who has often adjudicated at the drama feis in Belfast, was the producer.

Mrs. Leighton.

Mrs. Leighton has also been in the limelight; at a recent concert given by the Guildhall School of Music she was the 'cellist, and those who know what a fine musician she is will realise that the many compliments which were paid her after the performance were fully justified. Another Ulster musician who is distinguishing herself in London is Joan Trimble, who comes from Enniskillen. She is a student at the Royal College of Music, where she has just been awarded the Wesley Exhibition. She used to carry off lots of prizes at the various musical competitions in the Six Counties.

(Photo: Baron.)

Princess Alexandra, daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Kent, who will be two years old to-morrow.

GIRL WHO WAS BORN WITHOUT LEGS.

IS NOW LEARNING TO DANCE

SURGEON'S REMARKABLE STORY.

Born without any legs and up to two years ago using her hands as feet, an 18-year-old girl is this Christmas learning to dance.

Her remarkable transformation from "a circus curiosity" to "a self-reliant girl with a place in life" is told in the "British Medical Journal."

Two years ago, writes Mr. Reginald Broomhead, hon. surgeon at Leeds Infirmary, a girl, aged 16, was brought to him as she was said to have been "born without any legs."

"She came into my consulting room walking on her hands, using the base of her trunk as a middle support.

"She was a most curious sight when I first saw her. One had the impression of a rather large dog coming into the room, an impression made stronger when she leaped from the floor to an ordinary chair, and squatted on her haunches with a rather pleased smile at her trick.

"Her speed when 'walking' was amazing. She could cross the room as fast as an ordinary adult.

"The change from the ambulatory position on the floor, where she looked like a domestic animal, to that on a chair, where she took on the appearance of an ordinary individual, was dramatic.

The girl, whose hands were thickened and studded with "hoofs," was anxious now she was reaching womanhood to be the same height as others. Was it possible?

There were many consultations. Those responsible for the girl did not favour the amputation of a deformed stump, necessary to assist the fitting of artificial legs. They feared that if it failed the operation might ruin any return to the girl's original method of progression.

Eventually the girl was sent to the late Dr. H. R. Moxon at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, making use of the Ministry of Pensions scheme whereby civilians have the advantage of advice from expert military limb-fitting surgeons.

Dr. Moxon reported that there was a "reasonable chance" of obtaining successful results, enhanced by the girl's obvious wish to be fitted and to look like a normal girl.

In June, 1937, an operation was performed to prepare the stumps to receive artificial limbs.

Then after 17 years for the first time she stood erect on artificial legs. She became giddy, unused to the height.

Gradually she was given progressively increased heights until she was able to retain her balance when raised to her normal height of 5ft. 1in. She proved an apt pupil in learning to walk.

"Her whole outlook is changed," writes Mr. Broomhead. "Fully dressed, she is to all intents and purposes an ordinary individual. She is now a self-reliant girl with a place in life instead of being a circus curiosity."

In her own words, "I can nearly do everything now, and do not ache so."

Last month the girl's doctor reported that she is progressing with increasing freedom, and is beginning to learn to dance.

PURDYSBURN FEVER HOSPITAL.

Christmas was celebrated to-day in Purdysburn Fever Hospital, when the usual good things were served to the patients who are unfortunately, compelled to be away from their family circle at this festive season.

In each ward a Christmas tree was provided, laden with toys, which were subsequently distributed to the patients according to their choice. Each ward was tastefully decorated by the ward sisters and their staff.

The staff are again indebted to Messrs. S. Walker, [illegible] Badger, G. Brown and N. Hewitt who have so kindly given of their time for the past four years as assistants to Santa Claus. To the chairman and members of the Public Health Committee thanks are once more due for making possible such an enjoyable Christmas for the patients and staff.

Lady Oxford, in her Saturday Commentary, writes to-day

On Eloquence, Genius, and Gas Masks

"Mr. Gladstone was the only man of genius I ever knew."

"We have seen money wasted on gas masks which will be obsolete unless Britain is immediately invaded."

It was not without emotion that I listened from the Speaker's Gallery to the tributes paid to my husband that accompanied the Prime Minister's motion for a statue to be erected to him in the precincts of Parliament.

When I listened to the Prime Minister's speech I could not help wishing that my husband had known him. They were very different men, but they had one of the greatest and strongest of all political bonds—they both abominated war.

I remember my husband saying to me that it was strange that he, of all men, should have had the task of bringing a united Empire into a war. But war was inevitable in 1914, since we could not sit with folded arms and watch the German Navy sail past our shores to mop up France.

I feel certain that, in similar circumstances, Mr. Chamberlain would have done the same, and that is why I wish that he had known the man to whom he was paying such a high tribute. I felt a certain sympathy for Mr. Lloyd George, who doubtless felt that it was his duty to speak, as one of the few surviving members of my husband's Cabinet.

PEACE IS BIGGEST TEST

The test of a great War Minister is not the war—which was well under way when Mr. Lloyd George succeeded us in 10 Downing Street—but the peace; and can anyone say that the Treaty of Versailles, over which he was the dominating personality—with his beautiful voice and persuasive eloquence—did not help to create the greatest Dictator in Europe? I left the Speaker's Gallery with mixed feelings of pride and emotion.

I lunched with the Speaker and Mrs. Fitzroy last week—the night before the Prime Minister addressed the jubilee dinner of the Foreign Press Association. The last time I lunched in this house was when Mr. Gully was Speaker, and it was pleasing to see how little altered it has been in all these years.

Although I am unlike my own sex in most ways, I resemble it in one—I am conservative, and suspect what are called "improvements."

A foreign guest at the luncheon said she supposed that the long panelled rooms, with their spacious windows looking down on the terrace and the Thames, were very old. She asked could I tell her the precise date. I was ashamed to say I could not tell her when the Houses of Parliament were built, but they were not old.

The Speaker looked handsome in his black knee-breeches, silk stockings, and buckled shoes. He said that he was anxious that the Prime Minister should get through his speech with success as it was a particularly difficult time for anyone to speak upon foreign affairs, and, like me—and many others—he deplored the innovation of so many debates upon them.

The French are as sensitive as the Germans are ruthless, and histrionics and ignorance in our House of Commons are at their height in these monstrous votes of censure.

THIS MEMORABLE YEAR

We agreed that, since the Home Rule and Parliament Bills, society had never been so divided in opinion as it is to-day. I say "society" advisedly, as in the country the Prime Minister's policy, or pursuit of peace, has a large and respected following. Some one said that they had been shocked to hear that persons in high places had prompted certain newspapers to attack him. To this I replied that I knew nothing, but hoped it was not true. A recently appointed Foreign Minister who sat next to me at the luncheon said that no words could describe the relief of his people—a neighbouring nation—when they heard that Neville Chamberlain had flown over on September 15 to see Herr Hitler, and he was amazed to find a group of people in Britain denouncing him. He added that that courageous action would make this the most memorable year since the war.

I felt apprehensive when I read the report of the Prime Minister's speech the following morning, for, as the Speaker said, it was a difficult speech to make, and he has not the kind of eloquence that moves masses.

Herr Hitler has a sort of political sex-appeal, to judge by the hysteria with which his speeches are greeted. Neville Chamberlain has an opposite appeal; he is an authentic person who believes in what he says, and could never court popularity. I read in a book somewhere that it was said of a famous politician—"He is a dangerous fellow, because he believes in what he says."

I never thought of this. I should have said that the men who courted popularity, and were only desirous of rousing their audience to a high pitch of excitement, whether they believed in what they said or not, were the dangerous ones.

I am a bad judge, just as I am a bad sightseer. It is not enough for something to be renowned for me to admire it. Mass emotion leaves me cold. John Morley said to me in one of the many talks we had sitting in his garden at Wimbledon—"Tell me what is Winston Churchill doing now? He is a brilliant fellow, but I see little of him." I said that he was interesting himself in Napoleon, otherwise I could not say what he was doing at that particular moment. John Morley replied—"If you are as fond of him as I am tell him to study the drab heroes of life!"

It is curious to think that you can do a great deal with talent, but little with genius. Genius seems to be unimprovable; you are born with it, and die with it, and, although it gives you many advantages, it is apt to run away with you, and wise men are never run away with: they know when and where to stop.

ONLY MAN OF GENIUS I KNEW

I have met very few men of genius, and no women—although there must be several. Everyone has a different conception of genius, and the definition that it is "the infinite capacity for taking pains" is ridiculous: this obviously applies to talent.

Mr. Gladstone was the only man of genius I ever knew, and I never met his rival, but I am certain that Disraeli had it, and, in a different way, I think Jowett—the famous Master of Balliol—had something very like it.

If I were a newspaperman hard up for some new topic to write about I would invite all the clever men and women who are prominent to-day to say which of those they had met in their lives had had genius.

Probably what the Foreign Minister said to me at the Speaker's lunch is true—this will be a memorable year when the history of this country comes to be written—the most memorable since the war.

Nevertheless, for me it has been a year of exceptional sadness, and for a great many others all the world over. Have we ever seen more suffering, more misery, or more unnecessary cruelty inflicted by man upon man than in the year which is about to end?

We have seen our own crisis—out of which we did not come with either courage or common sense. We have seen money wasted on gas masks which will be obsolete unless Britain is immediately invaded, and all the folly which fear engenders at a time when every country had more excuse for fear than ours.

MONEY WASTED ON MASKS

We have watched wars in Spain, China, and Japan, which do not look like ending. And, worse than this, we have seen a wave of incredible barbarity sweep over what was once a highly civilised nation—the country of music, poetry, medicine, science, and learning, which has stirred the conscience of the whole world. Innocent men and women are struggling to find food, shelter, and some place where they will not be imprisoned, persecuted, or molested.

The only consolation which I can find in contemplating all these horrors is—can nations flourish who are led by men who think themselves superior to God? And since at heart, however bellicose the speeches of agitators, no one wants war, I am hopeful enough to think it will be averted.

As I write we will be wishing all our friends a merry Christmas and a happy New Year, and praying—as has been my custom, and that of many others—the old year out. And when the bells of all the churches are ringing in the New Year, and we are on our knees, our prayers will surely be answered.

TRIED TO 'STAVE OFF' SUICIDE

UNTIL AFTER CHRISTMAS.

MAN'S LETTER AT INQUEST.

A man who gassed himself after an attempt at electrocution left a letter saying that he had tried to "stave off" suicide until after Christmas.

The letter, which was read at the Westminster inquest on Friday on Alfred Weissner (47), formerly a salesman, stated that he had previously tried to gas himself and had failed, and added: "I hate to think I might injure some innocent person in the process."

"This evening," the letter went on, "I tried a different method, and passed 230 volts of electric current through myself three times. It was agony, but did not work, and eventually I fused the lights."

The letter concluded: "Goodbye to a coward. I can't wish you all a merry Christmas, but, believe me, I have tried to stave this off till after the holidays, but have found it impossible."

A verdict of suicide while of unsound mind was recorded, and it was stated that the man imagined he had an illness.

UNEMPLOYED PARTY AT PALACE.

PRESENTING OF PETITION.

TO BE SENT TO THE KING.

Fifteen unemployed men marched through the Green Park and attempted to get into Buckingham Palace on Friday.

They were stopped at the gates by two policemen.

They announced their intention of presenting a petition to the King asking for winter relief.

The men refused to disperse, and police reinforcements were sent for.

After discussion between the leaders of the deputation and a police inspector, Mr. Donald Renton, the London organiser of the National Unemployed Workers' Movement, was allowed to go into the Palace with two officers and to hand over the petition.

When Mr. Renton came out he told the crowd which had gathered outside the Palace that he had given the petition to one of the King's secretaries with a request that it should be telephoned immediately to the King at Sandringham.

He also said that while he was waiting for the petition to be read the police inspector who had accompanied him hustled him downstairs and out of the Palace before he had received an answer.

CASHIER FIRE FIGHTER.

£2,000 WAGES SAVED.

With a towel wrapped round his head, the cashier in Dundee City Chamberlain's department on Friday helped to save between £2,000 and £3,000 when fire broke out in the department's offices. Empty money bags were used in an attempt to blanket the flames, which spread quickly.

While the fire brigade was on its way, the cashier, Mr. John Clark, and a wages clerk, Mr. Harry Scott, who were making up wages, hurriedly removed the money from the reach of the flames.

"I got a wet towel over my head," said Mr. Clark, "and I got a lot of money carried into another room. There would be about £2,000 to £3,000, which we were making up into wages at the time."

The cashier's office and the general office were partially gutted, 35 ledgers were scorched, and a small sum of money was burned.

BREVITIES.

Flax sold at Ballymena to-day at from 8s 6d to 11s per stone.

Lord Justice Babington, who is president of Linfield F.C., has invited the directors of Derry City F.C. to luncheon on Tuesday when Derry City meet Linfield at Windsor Park.

Light-up to-night at 4-30; Sunday, 4-31; Monday, 4-32. High tides in Belfast to-morrow, 12-39 a.m.; 12-45 p.m. Monday, 1-14 a.m.; 1-23 p.m.; Tuesday, 1-54 a.m.; 2-2 p.m.

The **ASHLEIGH STUDIO** for perfect reproduction of old photographs.—112 Royal Avenue. 'Phone 23087.

PHOTOGRAPH CANVASSERS.

The Proprietors of the "Belfast Telegraph" wish to inform their readers that no person has any authority from them to approach people who have been bereaved with a view to obtaining orders for copies of enlargements of photographs of deceased relatives.

HOLIDAY HUNT FIXTURES.

BOXING DAY.

County Down Staghounds—Ballynahinch, noon.
Londonderry Garrison Drag Hunt—The Diamond, 11 a.m.
Route Hunt—Corbally, noon.
Seskinore Harriers — The Courthouse, Omagh (Killybrack district), 12-30 p.m.
Tynan and Armagh Hunt—Killylea, noon.

TUESDAY.

Louth Hounds—Beaulieu, 11 a.m.
East Antrim Hounds—Beechwood (Capt. J. Ross), 12-30 p.m.
Mid-Antrim Hunt—Lisnamurrican, 12-30 p.m.
Killultagh Harriers—Oldstone, noon.
Strabane Harriers—Carricklee, noon.

Becoming Milder:

Sea Smooth

TO-DAY'S weather forecast states:—

N.W, N.E. and S.W. Ireland—Wind light, variable, freshening from south later; fair at first, rain probable later; becoming milder.

Further outlook—Little change in the south-east; milder in extreme west and north-west.

Irish Sea—Wind light, variable; fair; visibility good; sea slight.

MAJOR HILLS DEAD.

CONSERVATIVE M.P. FOR RIPON.

NOTED PARLIAMENTARIAN.

WROTE ON PREMIER AS ANGLER.

Major John Waller Hills, Conservative M.P. for the Ripon Division of Yorkshire since December, 1925, died at his London home to-day. He was 71.

Major Hills had a serious illness early this year and his condition became critical about a week ago.

His death will necessitate a by-election in the Ripon Division.

The figures at the last election were—Major J. W. Hills (C.), 30,804; R. J. Hall (Lab.) 9,116; majority, 21,688.

Major Hills intimated two months ago that he did not intend to seek re-election at the next General Election.

Major Hills, who was born in 1867, qualified as a solicitor, and for some time before leaving the law for the realms of finance served on the council of the Law Society.

It was in the political field, however, that Major Hills was best known. A large part of his life was spent as a member of the House of Commons, where he was popularly known as "Jack" Hills.

His entry to the House was somewhat spectacular; for, standing as a 100 per cent. Tariff Reformer, he was elected as member for the City of Durham at the General Election of 1906, being one of the few new members to win on that programme.

He continued to represent Durham City until the election of November, 1922, when the seat was won by Labour. But for his defeat at Durham, and later at Edge Hill, Liverpool, Major Hills might have found his way to Cabinet rank in post-war Conservative Administrations.

It was not until December, 1925, that Major Hills reappeared at Westminster, as member for Ripon. He was elected at a by-election caused by the appointment of Viscount Halifax.

OVERTURNED BUS RUN INTO.

ONE WOMAN KILLED.

ABOUT 40 PASSENGERS INJURED.

A woman so far unidentified was killed and about 40 other passengers were injured when a Birkenhead Corporation motor bus travelling along the main road from Birkenhead to Chester overturned after colliding with a motor lorry on Friday night.

The bus had just passed the New Ferry, and after grazing the side of an oncoming lorry overturned and crushed a van which was following the lorry.

While the bus was lying on its side and the passengers were trying to escape another bus coming from the opposite direction crashed into the top of the overturned vehicle, ripping a tremendous hole in the roof.

People from neighbouring shops rushed to the scene to render assistance to the passengers, and six ambulances and a fire engine were sent to the spot.

Fortunately the overturned bus did not catch fire, although the driver, who had a miraculous escape from serious injury, was unable to switch off his engine.

For five hours main road traffic between Liverpool and Birkenhead and the Midlands had to be diverted through Port Sunlight.

The bus was crowded with Christmas shoppers returning home from Liverpool and Birkenhead, and after the bus had been emptied of injured people many parcels of all kinds could be seen strewn about the interior of the bus.

DEATH OF MR. W. PALMER.

BUSHMILLS ORANGE OFFICER.

Mr. William Palmer, who died at his residence, Bushmills, on Friday had been engaged in the milling business for over 40 years. For 35 years he had been District Master of the Bushmills District Orange Lodges He is survived by his wife, four sons and four daughters.

PURDYSBURN HOSPITAL.

CONDITION OF PATIENTS.

The following report was issued from the hospital to-day:—

Class 1 (dangerously ill)—376 400.

Class 2 (seriously ill, no immediate danger)—636 149 251 282 305 333 380 367 371 382 383 388 394 395 396 397 398 399 401 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425.

Class 3 (ill, making satisfactory progress)—[illegible]9 231 270 279 296 303 304 309 315 316 324 328 331 332 334 336 337 339 341 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 351 352 353 355 357 358 361 362 363 364 365 366 369 370 372 373 374 375 377 378 379 381 384 385 386 387 389 390 391 392 402.

Class 4 (convalescent and doing well)—others.

Inquiries may be made by telephone regarding those in Classes 1 and 2 between [illegible] and 10 a.m. and 5 and 6 p.m. 'Phone [illegible]12 The telephone must not be used in [illegible] classes.

PLIGHT OF NEWRY WORKHOUSE.

This morning there was no water available in any of the departments of Newry Workhouse due to the supply [illegible]s freezing up during the course of [illegible] night. Water had to be conveyed to the Institution in the urban council [illegible]ring cart which was pulled by a [illegible]thern Transport lorry.

PAYNTER AND GIBB

RESCUE ENGLAND FROM BAD START

EDRICH OUT IN FIRST OVER

JOHANNESBURG TEST

EDDIE PAYNTER, THE LITTLE LANCASTRIAN, SCORED A CENTURY FOR ENGLAND AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA IN THE FIRST TEST AT JOHANNESBURG TO-DAY.

WITH P. A. GIBB HE PULLED HIS COUNTRY ROUND FROM A BAD START.

EDRICH TEST FAILURE.

Edrich was out to a brilliant catch off the fifth ball of the day with only four scored, and there was danger of E. Q. Davis (very fast and swinging the ball dangerously) securing further prizes.

But if Paynter and Gibb had some luck they also played determined cricket. Not until their partnership had added 184 was Paynter out for 117.

The match is being played on a perfect wicket, which has been "nursed" for three years.

THE TEAMS.

ENGLAND.	SOUTH AFRICA.
HAMMOND,	MELVILLE,
VALENTINE,	MITCHELL,
YARDLEY,	LANGTON,
GIBB,	DALTON,
FARNES,	WADE,
EDRICH,	VILJOEN,
PAYNTER,	NOURSE,
GODDARD,	VAN DER BYL,
VERITY,	DAVIES,
WILKINSON,	GORDON,
AMES.	BOND.
TWELFTH MAN:—BARTLETT.	TWELFTH MAN:—HARRIS.

JOHANNESBURG, Saturday.—Although to-day dawned cloudy and cool after yesterday's warmth, news of something approaching a white Christmas at home seemed strange to those attending the first Test Match between England and South Africa. Last night's heavy downpour had not affected the wicket, which had been protected, and was expected to play on the fast side. The outfield had not quite dried out, but the grass was short-cut.

A queue, which formed outside the gates of the Wanderers' ground three hours before play was due to begin, included a number of schoolboys taking particular interest in the play of three schoolmasters, E. Q. Davies, P. Van Der Byl, and K. Farnes.

England would welcome rain more than South Africa, who have no spin bowler of the class of the Yorkshire left-hander, Hedley Verity. Verity has been carefully nursed for this match, and did not play against either Western Province or the Transvaal, so that few of the Test players have faced his bowling.

Leonard Hutton the record-breaking Yorkshire batsman, who was struck by a ball last week-end, was not playing.

Hammond and Melville walked out to the middle of the ground, and, after examining the wicket, they called the groundsman's attention to some moist patches near the pitch. Hessian was rolled over them to dry them out.

Then Melville threw a coin into the air and Hammond called correctly. Hammond chose P. A. Gibb to open the innings with Edrich, and when they came out to bat there were 3,000 spectators present.

HOW EDRICH WAS OUT.

Edrich took the first over from Davies, who is very fast for the first few overs and makes the ball swing considerably. Making a fine on-drive off the third ball Edrich began with a boundary, but he was out to the fifth ball without adding to the score. It was an outswinger, which the batsman edged into the slips.

Mitchell is one of the world's greatest slip fields, and he showed his quality by diving brilliantly to accept this chance. He rolled over after securing the ball and Edrich was uncertain whether a catch had actually been made. He hesitated the bowler appealed, and the umpire's finger went up.

Davies troubled both Gibb and Paynter, the Lancashire left-hander, who took Edrich's place. Langton at the other end sent down a maiden over. The batsmen gradually settled down to more confident cricket, but Paynter had a very lucky escape when, in playing forward to Langton, the ball turned in and shaved the off-stump. Davies was still sending them down at a fine pace and making the ball rise occasionally. W. W. Wade, a brother of the former South African captain, kept wicket well.

At 32 Gordon, a fast-medium bowler, came on for Davies, who had bowled four overs for 20 runs and one wicket. The batsmen were not over-comfortable. Gordon struck the pads of both, but appeals for lbw failed.

GIBB'S ESCAPE.

Langton was very accurate and swinging the ball well. Gibb was fortunate not to be out off him after making 11. He edged one into the slips, where the ball shot out of Melville's hand towards Van Der Byl, who also failed to hold it.

After a stoppage for drinks at 48 Mitchell came on with his slow spinners in place of Langton, who had bowled seven good overs for 16 runs. With a single to the off Paynter sent the 50 up after 65 minutes

For a time the batsmen were subdued by some accurate bowling, but eventually Paynter opened out against Mitchell. Gibb also attacked the bowling with confidence, but when Davies came back for Gordon Paynter survived another lbw appeal.

Paynter made some lucky snicks through the slips, but as the luncheon interval approached both he and Gibb were playing all the bowling with more certainty. Paynter reached his 50, which included only two boundaries, in 99 minutes, and at lunch, taken at 98 for one, he was 56 and Gibb 33.

Gibb and Paynter, though having some luck, had retrieved the position for England, having so far added 94 for the second wicket. Runs had never been easy to get, for good, accurate bowling had been well supported by very keen fielding.

It was sunny after lunch when the game was resumed before 10,000 spectators. Several hundreds also watched the game without paying admission. They were the tenants of blocks of flats and offices surrounding the Wanderers Ground.

Langton opened the bowling with a maiden, the second of the day, and then Paynter, with a straight drive off Davies, put the 100 up in 112 minutes.

ENGLAND—First innings.

Edrich c Mitchell b Davies	... 4
P. A. Gibb not out ...	... 79
Paynter b Mitchell ...	...117
W. R. Hammond not out	... 21
Extras	... 6
Total (for two wickets)	227

LORD CHARLEMONT AGAIN.

IN CENSOR ROLE NOW.

"LOCAL PRESS" ALLUSION.

SORT OF NEWS HE SAYS THEY GIVE

For the week or so I wonder whether it would be possible for the B.B.C. to refrain from giving us the more violent portions of anti-British articles in the German and Italian Press, writes Viscount Charlemont in to-day's "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post."

At ordinary times it must obviously be right to do everything possible to engender hostile feelings towards Germany and Italy in the breasts of provincial persons like myself, who would otherwise never hear what the editors of the "Berliner Zeitung" or the "Corriere" think of—and especially at nine p.m., when our critical faculties are not at their highest.

For it is an unfortunate fact that our local Press gives little prominence to these gentlemen day by day, thinking, apparently, that deeds are better news than words, especially words in a controlled Press.

For this reason our fighting spirit has to be sustained by a kind of bomb which bursts in our homes every night, scattering frightful morsels all hot from the pens of Dr. Goebbels and Signor Gayda.

But just for Christmas time I cannot but believe it would be a good thing to have a brief rest from foreign propaganda—a time in which we would be allowed to imagine that there are Germans and Italians who would like to live quietly and peacefully with their neighbours if they were allowed to.

GERMAN HEADSMAN BUSY.

THIRD VICTIM IN TWO DAYS.

Wolfgang Stoklossa, a 21-year-old German, was beheaded by the axe in Germany.

He was the third to go to the block in two days. He was accused of having hired a cab, told the driver to take him to a lonely district, and there, at the pistol point, forced him to hand over his money.—Reuter.

"PERHAPS MY LAST CHRISTMAS."

THE POPE'S MESSAGE.

BLESSES THE CARDINALS.

REPLY TO DOCTOR'S WARNING.

VATICAN CITY, Saturday.—The Pope to-day insisted in carrying out the customary Christmas Eve ceremony of receiving Christmas greetings from the Cardinals.

It is customary for the Pontiff to deliver a message lasting about three-quarters of an hour, but to-day he confined himself to a few words of review of the sorrows and joys of the year, the ceremony lasting less than 15 minutes.

Dr. Milani, his personal physician, had practically ordered the Pope not to exert himself, but the Pope replied, "My son, this, perhaps, is my last Christmas, and I intend to give my personal blessing to those of my sons who come to present me with their greetings."

The Pope, although appearing to be very weak, spoke in a clear voice, and refused assistance while negotiating the few steps leading from the audience hall to his private apartments.

He was welcomed by Cardinal Pignatelli Delmonte in the name of the College of Cardinals, who congratulated him on his wonderful and remarkable recovery.—Reuter.

SUDDEN DEATHS IN ENNISKILLEN.

Within a week two Enniskillen men have died very suddenly.

Last Wednesday Mr. James Brady, of New Row, was found dead in bed by his wife.

The second death occurred on Friday evening. Mr. Bernard Nolan, a retired G.N.R. painter, had been for a walk in the town, and on returning home to Mill Street he collapsed in the kitchen and died.

Nolan, who resided with his two sisters, was aged about 66, and had only vacated his post with the G.N.R. about six weeks ago. He was a member of the Irish National Foresters, and held the position of Chief Ranger for some years, up till the time of his death.

This Week's News in Pictures. See the "Weekly Telegraph."

DEATH OF MR. H. A. M. BARBOUR

TO-DAY IN SWITZERLAND.

AFTER PNEUMONIA ATTACK.

The announcement of the death of Mr. Harold Adrain Milne Barbour, which took place early to-day in Switzerland will be received with the deepest regret, throughout not only Ulster, but the whole of Ireland.

Little over a week ago he left his home, Windy Brow, Belsize Road, Lisburn, to go to Singapore on a pleasure trip. His wife had been suffering from eye trouble and had gone to Switzerland for an operation, and he planned to visit her, on the way, his intention being to join the ship outward bound at Marseilles. He was in the best of health apparently when starting on his journey, and it is believed that he must have received a chill in the very cold weather that prevailed during his crossing to the Continent, for immediately after his arrival in Switzerland he was attacked with pneumonia. Everything that careful nursing and medical skill could accomplish was undertaken for his recovery, but unfortunately the end came as stated.

Mr. Harold Barbour's passing means a loss to this country, the extent of which few can estimate. Possessed of the broadest sympathies confined to no creed, class, or party, he had always before his mind the achievement of all that was best for the land in which he lived.

THE LATE MR. HAROLD BARBOUR.

HIS INTEREST IN AGRICULTURE.

This was demonstrated at an early stage in his career in a manner which at once distinguished him as one who was prepared to make any sacrifice in time, money, and labour to rise up to an ideal. Luckily for the farming section of the population of Ireland his ideal was the setting of agriculture on a basis which would make it not merely the basic, but the supreme industry of the whole Kingdom.

His advent in this sphere of activity happily synchronised with the initiation of the great effort made by Sir Horace Plunket to establish the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society, the object of which was to bring about co-operative enterprise among the entire farming community.

Sir Horace at once saw what a valuable asset lay in the enthusiasm, the energy, the splendid oratorial advocacy, and the high social position of the young, well-educated recruit from the North, and the result was that Mr. Barbour became associated with him in his campaign all over Ireland.

The alliance thus formed and welded lasted throughout the remainder of Sir Horace's presidency of the organisation of which he had become the vigorous founder, and when the political changes occurred, which have given North and South separate Parliaments, not even that difference could place a limitation upon Mr. Barbour's activities for the further promotion and welfare of the scheme in both territories to which he had given so much of his help. While the North had to come under a separate administration, and had established its own society for the advancement of the like objects as the present one, under the name of Ulster Agricultural Organisation Society, Mr. Barbour always found an opportunity to bring the South into his thoughts and carry out in reference to it the spirit of co-operation which had taken to great hold upon his own mind and became so much of an ambition to him.

FIRE IN A LONDON HOTEL.

ONE DEAD, TWO INJURED.

BELIEVED TO BE CZECH REFUGEES.

Exciting rescue scenes took place when a fire involving the death of one man and injury to two others occurred at an hotel in Porchester Gardens, Bayswater, London, early to-day.

The three men are believed to be Czech refugees. Bruno Reichert, aged 50, lost his life, and the names of the two injured are Bruno Schneider (50) and Josef Volkl (32).

They were treated at St. Mary's Hospital but not detained.

An L.C.C. fireman, Andrew Collinson, who was injured by falling masonry, was also treated at the hospital, but was later able to go home.

The fire, according to eye-witnesses, apparently started on the ground floor of the building, and spread rapidly upwards.

The first that the residents in the neighbourhood knew of the fire was when they were awakened at about 6-30 a.m. by the arrival of the fire brigades.

Looking from their windows they saw firemen carrying trapped people from the upper floors of the hotel to the safety of the snow-covered street below.

Miss Leithwaithe, of Porchester Gardens, was also slightly injured.

Mr. Fenner Brockway, secretary of the Independent Labour Party, whose help was sought by the police, ascertained that the dead and injured men were connected with the Brother Party of the I.L.P. in Czecho-Slovakia, and that they were being taken care of in this country as refugees by the I.L.P.

TWO SHORT "BLACK-OUTS."

IN BALLYMENA DISTRICT.

Some further slight inconvenience was caused in Ballymena on Friday evening and again this morning from the partial failure of the electricity supply. Shortly after eight o'clock there were two short "black-outs" of about five minutes' duration each, and business in shops and performances in the local cinemas were more or less held up until the current was restored. There was a further interruption this morning when the current was off from about eight until 10 o'clock.

KILLED ON THE RAILWAY.

BELFASTMAN'S TRAGIC FATE.

Albert Tully (42), an unemployed married man, who resided at Abingdon Street, Belfast, was found in a terribly mutilated condition on the Great Northern Railway line, near Donegall Road, about four o'clock this morning.

He died a few minutes after admission to the Royal Victoria Hospital.

It is not known how Tully got on the line, but it is presumed that he was run over by a goods train.

LOST Green Jade Piece (Pendant), Belfast. Finder rewarded 37 Madison Avenue, Cavehill Road.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS (must be authenticated)—3s for 28 words or under and 9d for every additional line of 7 words.

GOLDEN WEDDING.

JOHNSTON—LUNN—December 25, 1888, at Christ Church, Shankill Parish, Lurgan, Robert Ellis Johnston, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Johnston, of Union Street, Lurgan, to Margaret, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lunn, Hill Street, Lurgan, Co. Armagh. Present address: 30 Wesley Place, Lurgan.

DEATHS.

BEATTY—December 23, 1938, at his residence, 23 Barnhill, Larne, William John Beatty. Funeral from above address, on to-morrow (Sunday), 25th inst., at 2-30 p.m., to M'Garel Cemetery, Larne.
Deeply regretted by his Daughter, Son-in-law, and Grandchildren.

BEATTY—December 23, 1938, at his residence, 23 Barnhill, Larne, William John Beatty.
Deeply regretted by his daughter, Son-in-law, and Grandson.
R. H. AND MRS. WINDER.
Whaley Terrace, Enniskillen.

BEATTY—December 23, 1938, at his residence, 23 Barnhill, Larne, William John Beatty.
Deeply regretted by his Son, Daughter-in-law and Grandchildren.
21 Mill Street, Larne.

OLDERFLEET DARTS CLUB—LARNE HARBOUR.
BEATTIE—The Members of above Club regret to learn of the death of the father of their esteemed Member, William Beattie. Members are requested to attend, if possible, funeral on to-morrow (Sunday), at 2-30 p.m.
JOHN C. SMYTH, Chairman.
T. HOOD, Hon. Secy.

BURNS—December 24, 1938, Mary Jane, widow of Thomas Burns. Funeral from her late residence, 54 Beech Street, to Ballyclare New Cemetery, on Monday, at 2 p.m.
At rest.
Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Family.

BURNSIDE—December 24, 1938, at Larne District Hospital, Martha Jane, widow of James Burnside, Kilwaughter. Funeral from the Hospital, at 2 p.m., to-morrow (Sunday), to Kilwaughter Cemetery.

BURROWES—December 23, 1938, at her residence, 12-13 Church Street, Antrim, Rose, widow of Charles Burrowes, Antique Galleries, Antrim. Funeral on to-morrow (Sunday), at 3 o'clock, to the family burying-ground, Antrim Parish Churchyard.
Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Family.

DUNADRY HOCKEY CLUB.
BURROWES—The Officers and Members of above Club regret to learn of the death of the mother of their esteemed Member, David Burrowes, and extend to him and relatives their sincere sympathy.
R. WASSON, Chairman.
S. WASSON, Hon Secy.

CRUTCHLEY—December 23, 1938, at his residence, Ballyveamore, Annalong, Hugh, dearly-beloved husband of Charlotte Crutchley. Funeral at 1-30 p.m., on to-morrow (Sunday), to family burying-ground, Kilhorne, Annalong.
Deeply regretted by his sorrowing Wife and Family.

PLUMBERS, GLAZIERS, AND DOMESTIC ENGINEERS' UNION—BELFAST LODGE.
DOBBIN—The Members of the above Union are requested to attend the funeral of their late respected Brother, James Dobbin. Funeral will leave his home, 32 Bryson Street, for interment in Dundonald Cemetery, at 2 p.m., on Monday, 26th December.
CHAS. M'MULLAN, Pres.
GEO. M. DONALDSON, Secy.

DODDS—December 23, 1938, at her mother's residence, 10 Beech Street, Sarah Dodds, eldest daughter of Elizabeth Stewart. Funeral from above address, on Monday, 26th inst., at 2-30 p.m., to City Cemetery.
Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Mother and Family.

CRAWFORDSBURN L.O.L. 1091.
DUCKITT—The Officers and Members of above Lodge regret to learn of the death of the son of their esteemed Member, Br. Joseph Duckitt.
J. CHARTERS, W.M.
E. M'CREADY, Secy.

DUNLOP—December 23, 1938, at his residence, 117 The Mount, Belfast, Robert Dunlop (late of Messrs. Alexander Finlay, Ltd., Victoria Square, Belfast). Funeral from above address, on Monday, at 2 p.m., to Dundonald Cemetery.

FRAZER—December 24, 1938, at the District Hospital, Banbridge, Rachel, dearly-loved wife of William Frazer. Funeral from her late residence, Lisnacreevy, Rathfriland, on Monday, 26th, at 1 o'clock, to First Rathfriland Presbyterian Burying-ground. House private.
Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Husband and Family.

GALWAY—December 23, 1938, at her grandmother's residence, 32 Vicarage Street, Hazel Ellen, dearly-beloved infant daughter of Robert and Annie Galway. Funeral from above address, at 2-30, on Monday, to Dundonald. Friends will please accept this intimation.
"A lamb in the Shepherd's fold."
Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Father, Mother, Grandmother, Uncles, and Aunts.

LAMONT—December 23, 1938, at her residence (suddenly), Marion Whitehall, dearly-beloved wife of William Lamont. Funeral from above address, on Monday, 26th December, at 2 p.m., to Dundonald. House private.
Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Husband and Family.
WILLIAM LAMONT.

LAMONT—December 23, 1938, at her residence, 33 Greenville Road, Marion W., dearly-beloved wife of Wm. Lamont.
Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Son (Billy), Daughter-in-law, and Family.
97 Carmel Street.

VICTORIA MALE VOICE CHOIR.
LAMONT—The Officers and Members of the above Choir deeply regret to learn of the death of the mother of their esteemed Member, James Lamont, and tender to him and all the family their sincere sympathy.
ERNEST ARNOLD, Chairman.
JAMES WILLIX, Secy.

MARTIN—December 24, 1938 (suddenly), at his residence, 240 Leopold Street, James, beloved husband of Eleanor Martin. Funeral on Monday, 26th inst., at 2-30 p.m., to Dundonald Cemetery.
Deeply regretted by his sorrowing Wife and Family.

MARTIN—December 24, 1938 (suddenly), at his residence, 240 Leopold Street, James Martin, dearly-beloved son of Elizabeth Edwards. His remains will be removed from above address, Monday, at 2-30, to Dundonald Cemetery.
Deeply regretted by sorrowing Mother and Stepfather.
JOHN AND ELIZABETH EDWARDS.
Also his Sister, Kathleen Allman.
181 Leopold Street.

MORRISON—December 23, 1938, at her residence, Brookmount, Crawfordsburn Road, Newtownards, Mary Jane, beloved wife of John Morrison. Funeral to Movilla Cemetery on Monday, 26th inst., at 2-30 p.m.
Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Husband and Family.
JOHN MORRISON.

M'CULLAGH—December 23, 1938, at a Private Nursing Home, Jean, widow of George B. M'Cullagh. House and funeral private.
118 Bloomfield Avenue.

RAVENSCROFT SOCIAL AND DART CLUB.
M'CULLAGH—The Officers and Members of above Club regret to learn of the death of the sister of their esteemed Member, Fred Thompson, and tender to him their sincere sympathy.
S. HUNTER, Chairman.
W. REDPATH, Secy.

M'CULLOUGH—December 24, 1938, at her residence, Crow Hill House, Newry, Margaret, dearly-beloved wife of W. J. M'Cullough. Funeral on Tuesday, 27th inst., at 1 o'clock, to St. Patrick's Churchyard, Newry.
Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Husband and Family.

M'MULLAN—December 23, 1938 (result of an accident), at Drumnacole, Carnlough, John M'Mullan, R.D.C. Funeral from his residence at Gandenagh, on Monday, at 2 p.m., to family burying-ground at Glenarm.
Deeply regretted by his sorrowing Wife and Family.

NELSON—December 24, 1938, at his residence, 16 Welland Street, Robert James Nelson. The remains of our dearly-beloved brother will be removed on Monday, at 2 p.m., for interment in Dundonald Cemetery. Friends will please accept this intimation.
"In the midst of life we are in death."
Deeply regretted by his sorrowing Sisters, Nephews, and Nieces.
American, Canadian, and Australian papers please copy.

PALMER—At his residence, Ivy Cottage, Busnmills, on the 23rd December, 1938, William Palmer, beloved husband of Elizabeth Palmer. Funeral to Dunluce Parish Church Burying-ground, on to-morrow (Sunday), 25th December, at 2 o'clock p.m.

PALMER—At his residence, Bushmills, on 23rd inst., Br. William Palmer, Worshipful District Master, Bushmills District L.O.L. The Brethren of District L.O.L. No. 21 will please attend funeral, on to-morrow (Sunday), 25th December, at 2 o'clock p.m. Members of the County Antrim Grand Orange Lodge are invited to attend. Regalia to be worn.
JAMES WILKINSON, Deputy D.M.
JAMES TORRENS, Dist. Secy.

SATISFIED

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Arthur Street, Belfast. Phone 25713.
After Hours—Phone 65233.

DEATHS.

RODGERS—December 24, 1938, at her residence, 23 Cambrai Street, Annie Elizabeth, beloved daughter of Vera and the late David Rodgers.
At rest.
Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Mother and Stepfather, and Brother and Sister.

RODGERS—At her residence, 23 Cambrai Street, Annie Elizabeth (Lily).
"Draw me nearer, blessed Lord."
Very deeply regretted by her Uncle Edward, and her sincere Friend, Tommy Ramsey.

SHARPE—December 23, 1938, at the Hospital, Lisburn Road, John Sharpe. Funeral from his brother's residence, The Bridge, Monkstown, at 1 p.m. Monday, to Monkstown Cemetery.
Deeply regretted by his sorrowing Brother and Sister; also Brothers-in-law, Sisters-in-law, Nephews, and Nieces

STEWART—December 23, 1938, at her residence, 10 Ulsterdale Street, Bloomfield, Jane, widow of John Stewart. Funeral from above address, on Monday, at 2 p.m., to Dundonald Cemetery. Friends will please accept this intimation.
Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Family.

THOMPSON—December 23, 1938, at his residence, Maydown, Benburb, Co. Armagh, John James, the dearly-loved father of Robert George Thompson. Funeral to-morrow (Sunday), at 1-30 p.m., to Killylea Methodist Churchyard.
Deeply regretted.
18 Woodhouse Street, Portadown.

WILSON—December 23, 1938, at her residence, 125 Upper Meadow Street, Sarah Jane, widow of James Wilson Funeral to-morrow (Sunday) at 2-30, to Carnmoney Cemetery.
Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Family.

THANKS.

The Family and Relatives of the late **Robert Allen** wish to thank the many kind Friends and Neighbours who sympathised with them in their recent sudden bereavement; also those who sent floral tributes, and especially those who attended the funeral. Hoping this will be accepted by all in grateful acknowledgment.—7 Glenbank Place.

The Family of the late **Mrs. Thomas Ambrose** desire to return their sincere thanks to the many kind Friends and Neighbours who sympathised with them in their recent sad bereavement; also those who sent floral tributes and letters of condolence. Hoping this acknowledgment will be accepted by all.—Harbour Road, Portavogie.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Ashe and Family desire to thank all the kind Friends and Neighbours who sympathised with them in their recent sad bereavement, especially those who sent floral tributes; also the Members of Belfast Apprentice Boys and Duncairn Flute Bands. Hoping this acknowledgment will be accepted by all.—67 Upper Mervue Street.

Major William Daniel and Family desire to thank the Headquarters Staff and Officers of the Irish Division, Locals and Comrades of Mountpottinger Corps, and the many kind Friends who sympathised with them in their sad bereavement; also those who sent floral tributes and letters of condolence. Hoping this will be accepted by all in grateful acknowledgment.—48 Loopland Park, Belfast.

The Family of the late **Margaret Johnston** desire to return their sincere thanks to the many kind Friends who sympathised with them in their recent sad bereavement, especially those who sent floral tributes and letters of condolence. Hoping this acknowledgment will be accepted by all.—20 Coolmore Street.

The Family of the late **Samuel M'Comb** desire to return their sincere thanks to the many kind Friends and Neighbours who sympathised with them in their recent sad bereavement, especially those who sent floral tributes and letters of condolence. Trusting this acknowledgment will be accepted by all.—4 Greenland Street, Belfast.

Miss J. Pinkerton and relatives wish to thank all those who sympathised with them in their recent sad bereavement; also those who sent floral tributes and letters of condolence. Hoping this acknowledgment will be accepted by all.—79 Palestine Street.

The Sisters and Brothers of the late **Thomas Francis Rogan** wish to express their heartfelt gratitude to all those who so kindly sympathised with them in their recent sorrow; to the Members of the Teaching Profession, especially the Staff and Boys of St. Matthew's P.E. School; to the Apostolic Workers, Clonard Branch; to the Officials of the G.P.O.; to the Telephone Staff for their beautiful floral tribute; also to all who sent Mass cards, letters, and telegrams of sympathy, and trust that this acknowledgment will be accepted by all in grateful appreciation.—141 Springfield Road.

IN MEMORIAM.

AMBROSE—In loving memory of our dear father, Thomas Ambrose, who died 24th December, 1934.
Ever remembered by his loving Family.
Harbour Road, Portavogie.

BLACK—In loving memory of my dear husband, Robert, who died 25th December, 1936.
At rest.
EILEEN BLACK.
68 Ebor Street.

BRUCE—In cherished and loving memory of my dear and devoted husband, William Wallace Bruce, late of Shorefield House, Sydenham, died 26th December, 1934. Interred in City Cemetery.

I have lost my soul's companion,
A life linked with my own;
One in hope, in love, and feeling,
Death divided, now alone.
Good was his heart, his friendship true,
Loved and respected by all he knew;
A beautiful life came to an end,
He died as he lived—everyone's friend.

Ever remembered and sadly missed by his sorrowing Wife.
WILLIAMMINNIE BRUCE.
4 Glenmachan Cottages,
Old Holywood Road, Belmont, Belfast.

CONOLLY—In loving remembrance of my beloved sister, Florence (Florrie), called Home December 25th, 1937. Interred in Dundonald.
"Peace, perfect peace."
Ever remembered by her loving Sister.
MINA.

CORBETT—In loving memory of my dear wife, Rebecca, who departed this life 25th December, 1937

One sad and lonely year has passed
Since my great sorrow fell;
The shock that I received that night
I still remember well

Sadly missed by her loving Husband.
SAMUEL CORBETT.
72 Frome Street.

CRILLY—In loving memory of my dear wife, Annie, who passed away on the 25th December, 1937.
Ever in our thoughts.
Remembered by her loving Husband.
R. CRILLY.
25 Vicarage Street.
Also her Daughter and Son-in-law.
MARY AND ADAM M'CUNE. and Family.
50 Mount Street.

CROCKETT—In loving remembrance of our dear mother, Isabella Crockett, who died 25th December, 1937.

She left us so quietly,
She never said good-bye;
But we know we shall meet her
In that beautiful Home on high.

Ever remembered by her loving Daughter and Grandchildren,
30 Cranbrook Gardens.
Also her Son, Daughter-in-law, and Grandchildren.
49 Wapping Lane, Londonderry.

GEARY—In memory of a loving father, Charles H Geary, who departed this life on 25th December, 1937

Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still.

Still lovingly remembered by his Daughter,
ADELAIDE.
8 Albany Street

HEWITT—In loving remembrance of my dear mother, Rachel Hewitt, who fell asleep in Jesus on 24th December, 1935.
Sadly missed by her loving Daughter,
JEAN HEWITT.

HEWITT—In loving memory of my dear mother, Rachel Hewitt, called Home 24th December, 1935.
Ever remembered by her Daughter, Son-in-law, and Grandchildren
AGNES AND SAMUEL BROWN.
46 Hillview Avenue.

HEWITT—In loving memory of my dear Mother, who died 24th December, 1935.
Ever remembered by her Son, Daughter-in-law, and Family.
6 Enid Parade.

HILL—In loving memory of my dear wife, and our dear mother, Sarah Hill, called Home 25th December 1937.
Resting where no shadows fall.
Ever remembered by her loving Husband and Family.
CHARLES HILL.
Upper Road, Greenisland.

HILL—A token of love to my dear Mother, who passed away on 25th December, 1937.
Peace, perfect peace, with loved ones far away,
In Jesu's keeping we are safe, and they.
Ever remembered by her loving Daughter, Son-in-law, and Granddaughter.
SARAH L. AND ISAAC MALCOLM.
Glencairn, Portstewart Road. Coleraine.

HUGHES—In loving memory of my father, Hugh Hughes, who died 24th December, 1936.
Ever remembered.
WM. HUGHES.
Holywood.

JACKSON—In loving memory of our dear daughter, Iris, who died 24th December, 1937.

Enfold her in Thine arms, O Lord,
And let her ever be
A messenger of love between
Our aching hearts and Thee.

Sadly missed by her loving Daddy, Mammie, Brothers, and Sister.
CHARLES AND ANNA JACKSON.
62 Fane Street.

KIDD—In loving memory of my dear husband, Joseph, who passed away 24th December, 1933; also my dear daughter, Lily, called Home 24th November, 1927, and my dear son, Jack, who fell asleep in Jesus 18th September, 1934.

Remembrance is a golden chain
Time tries to break, but tries in vain.

Sadly missed by his loving Wife and Family.
MATILDA KIDD.
10 Moyola Street.

LEINSTER—In loving memory of our dear son, David A. Leinster, 10th R.I.R., who died in Leicester Military Hospital, 24th December, 1917, from tetanus, contracted on active service.
Lovingly remembered.
THOMAS AND ELEANOR LEINSTER.
Kingston, Ont., Canada.

MAWHINNEY—In loving remembrance of my dear husband, George Henry, who died on the 25th December, 1937.
Sadly missed by his Wife and Son
177 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast.

World News To-day

Reprieve Drama.

AN Arab sentenced to death by a Jerusalem military court was reprieved half an hour before the time fixed for his execution. He had received the last rites.

Refugee's Fate.

In a fire at a hotel in Porchester Gardens, Bayswater, London, a man lost his life and two were injured. They are all believed to be Czech refugees.

Ulsterman's Death.

Mr. Harold Barbour, brother of Right Hon. J. Milne Barbour, Ulster Minister of Commerce, died in Switzerland from pneumonia.

Dail Member's Bid.

Mr. Robert Briscoe, a member of the Dail, has been interviewing the Polish authorities on the plight of 7,000 Jews expelled from Germany now marooned on the German-Polish frontier zones.

IN MEMORIAM.

MORRISON—In loving memory of Emily, beloved daughter of Henry and the late Matilda Morrison, who was called Home on December 24th, 1921, and was laid to rest in the City Cemetery.

No parting shall ever be known
On that happy and Heavenly Shore,
Those seated with Christ on His Throne
Go out from His presence no more.

Ever remembered by her loving Father, Brothers, and Sisters.
HENRY MORRISON.
54 Donegall Avenue.

M'AFEE—Treasured memories of our baby daughter, Elizabeth, whom Jesus called Home on 25th December, 1937.

Though her smile is gone for ever,
And her hand we cannot touch
We shall never lose fond memories
Of the one we loved so much.

Always remembered by her loving Daddy and Mammy.
2 Coleraine Road, Maghera.

M'ALLISTER—In loving memory of my dear Mother, who died 24th December, 1937.
"For ever with the Lord."
Ever remembered by her sorrowing Daughter, Son-in-law, and two Grandchildren.
ENA AND SAMUEL MILLAR.
22 Vara Drive.

M'ANOY—In loving memory of Robert James, who was laid to rest 26th December, 1934, in Ballylesson Churchyard.
Ever remembered by his Sister.
MRS. KERR.
16 Hillsborough Drive.

M'CALLUM—In loving memory of my dear husband, Sampson, who died on 24th December, 1937.

A silent thought brings many a tear
Of one I miss and loved so dear.

Sadly missed by his sorrowing Wife and Family.
132 Skegoneill Avenue.

M'CLEAN—In loving memory of Mother, who died 25th December, 1937.
Ever remembered by her loving Family.
JOHN M'CLEAN.
27 Parkgate Avenue.

M'CRUM—In loving memory of our dear mother, Elizabeth M'Crum, Kilgreel, Templepatrick, called Home 25th December, 1927.

With tender love and deep regret,
We, who loved her, can never forget.

Inserted by her loving Family.

M'CURLEY—In loving memory of our dear mother, Annie M'Curley, who departed this life 24th December, 1937; also her loving Granddaughter, wee Annie, who died December 16, 1933.

Swift and sudden came the call,
Her sudden death surprised us all;
Only those who have lost can tell
The pain of parting without farewell.

Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Daughters.
23 Northland Street.

M'CURLEY—In loving memory of my dear mother, Annie M'Curley, who departed this life 24th December, 1937; also her loving granddaughter, wee Annie, who died December 16, 1933.

Weep not for me, nor wish me back,
I am from pain now free,
And in my Saviour's arms I rest,
That's where I longed to be.

Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Son, Daughter-in-law, and Grandchildren.
23 Northland Street.

M'CURLEY—In loving memory of my dear mother, Annie M'Curley, who departed this life on 24th December, 1937; also my loving daughter, wee Annie, who died December 16, 1933

One sad and lonely year has passed,
Since our great sorrow fell;
The shock we all received that day
We still remember well.

Deeply regretted by her sorrowing Daughter, Son-in-law, and Grandchildren.
12 Northland Street.

M'MASTER—In loving memory of my dear husband, Thomas (Tommy), died 24th December, 1936.
Ever remembered by his Wife.
C. M'MASTER.
76 Cumberland Street.

NEILL—In loving memory of my dear wife, and our dear mother, Mary Neill, who departed this life on December 25th, 1935.

I was not there at time of death
To hear her last faint sigh;
To whisper just one loving word,
Or yet to say good-bye.

Ever remembered by her loving Husband and Daughters, Thos. P. Neill, Elizabeth and Margaret Neill, of Philadelphia, U.S.A.

RAINEY—In loving memory of my dear wife, and our dear mother, Susan Rainey, who died 25th December, 1929. Interred in Moy Churchyard.

Whose passing brought sad tears,
We cherish her memory always
To brighten the lonely years.

Ever remembered by her loving Husband and Family.
A. RAINEY.
Charlemont.

RAINEY—In loving memory of my dear mother, Susan Rainey, who died 25th December, 1929.
Worthy of everlasting remembrance.
Still sadly missed by her Daughter, Son-in-law, and Grandsons,
ELIZABETH AND CHARLES BEATTIE.
64 Castle Square, Bangor.

ROBINSON—In loving memory of our dear daughter, Annie, who departed this life December 25, 1931.
Sweet to remember her who once was here,
And who, though absent, is just as dear.
Ever remembered by her Father, Mother, Sisters, and Brother-in-law.
1 Fernview, Monkstown.

SMYTH—In loving memory of my dear husband, and our loving father, Henry Smyth, who fell asleep 26th December, 1935.
Worthy of everlasting remembrance.
MARGARET SMYTH and Family.
Lismoy Cottage, Whitehouse.

SMYTH—In affectionate remembrance of my dear mother, Elisabeth A. Smyth, called Home on 25th December, 1936; also my dear father, Nathaniel Smyth 20th April, 1925; also my dear brother, James R. Smyth, 6th February, 1917.

One by one their seats were emptied,
One by one they went away
Here the circle has been broken,
Will it be complete one day?

Ever remembered by their loving Daughter and Family.
SARAH M'COUBRIE.
4 Roxburgh Street.
Also their Son and Daughter-in-law and Grandson
JOHN AND SARAH SMYTH.
9 Tamery Street

FERMANAGH LORRY ON FIRE

DRIVER SEVERELY BURNED.

A lorry belonging to a milling firm when being driven to Enniskillen on Friday burst into flames and the driver, John Williams, Ballinamallard, in an effort to extinguish the flames received severe burns. He was conveyed to Fermanagh County Hospital, where he is making good progress.

CALLS TO BALLYMENA BRIGADE.

About 10 o'clock on Friday evening Ballymena Fire Brigade received a call to the premises of the Braid Mineral Water Company in Railway Street, where passers-by had observed smoke. On forcing an entrance the brigade found that the smoke was issuing from a heating apparatus used to keep an even temperature in the store, but there was no fire and no damage was done beyond that caused by forcing an entrance.

Earlier in the evening the brigade answered a call to a private house in Thomas Street occupied by a family named Morrison. A bed had become ignited. Neighbours quickly removed the burning material to the street and the services of the brigade were not required.

Insure and BE Sure.—The Norwich Union Insurance Societies transact Fire and all other classes of Insurance. Moderate terms. Ask for quotation. District Office: 7 Wellington Place, Belfast. (Tel. 23487/8).
135L

FOR COUGHS AND COLDS.

For the instant relief and speedy cure of coughs and colds a remedy of outstanding merit is Nicholl's Marshmallow Linctus A few doses will convince you of its effectiveness. Bottles 1s 3d and 2s 6d; per post 1s 9d and 3s. Sold only by I. W. NICHOLL, LTD., Pharmaceutical Chemists, 25 High Street, Belfast. (6)

Yuletide Among
the Animals of the Wild

See the article on
To-day's Centre Page

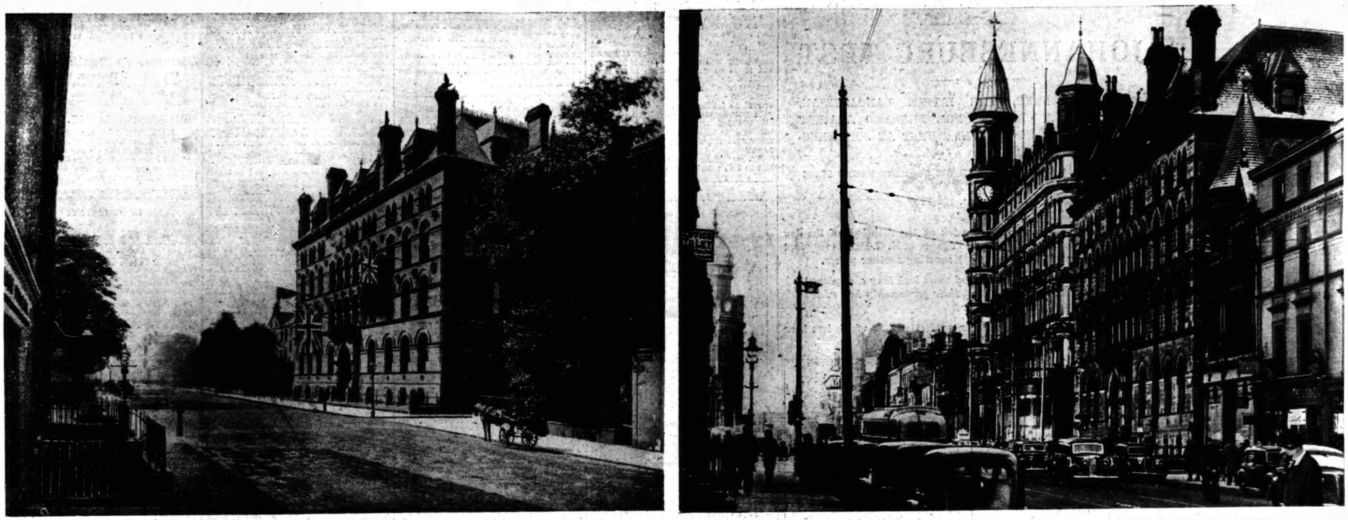
Belfast Telegraph

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1938.

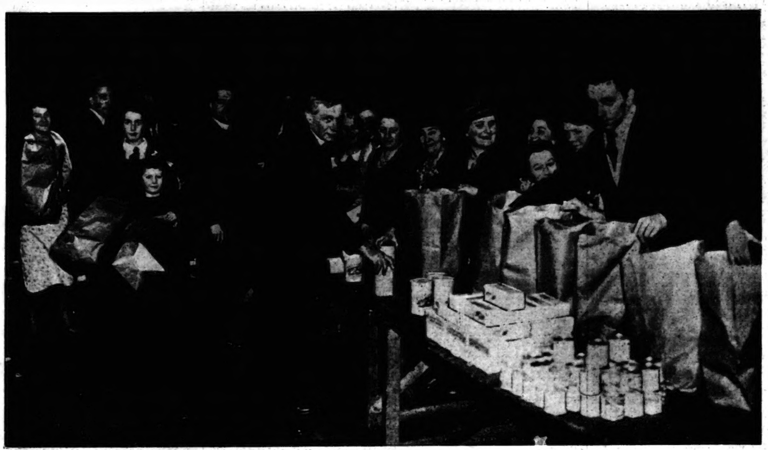
Keeping Christmas
100 Years From Now

Read the article on the
Week-end Page to-day

Changes Of Sixty Years :: Christmas Pantomime Rehearsal



DONEGALL SQUARE NORTH AND CHICHESTER STREET, BELFAST, IN THE SEVENTIES AND TO-DAY.—THE ONLY BUILDING SHOWING IN BOTH PICTURES IS THAT OF MESSRS. RICHARDSON SONS & OWDEN, LTD., RECENTLY SOLD TO THE BELFAST WATER BOARD. THE OLD PICTURE SHOWS THE TREES IN FRONT OF THE OLD WHITE LINEN HALL, AND THE RESIDENCES IN DONEGALL PLACE.



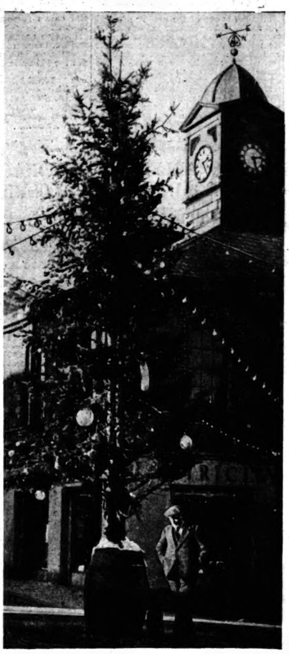
CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR 1,200.—PACKING PARCELS AT BELFAST CENTRAL MISSION. 1,200 WERE DISTRIBUTED TO NECESSITOUS FAMILIES.

ALL READY FOR FATHER CHRISTMAS.—PUTTING THE FINAL TOUCHES TO HIS CHRISTMAS TREE.

PANTOMIME OPENS IN BELFAST.—The arrest of the Baron. Scene from "The Babes in the Wood," which opens to-night at the Grand Opera House.

MISS HANNAH WATT (ROBIN HOOD) AND MISS BOBBIE COOPER (MAID MARION), PRINCIPAL BOY AND PRINCIPAL GIRL, RESPECTIVELY, IN THE PANTOMIME, AND (RIGHT) WEE GEORGIE WOOD, ALSO ONE OF THE PRINCIPALS.

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT E. JOHNSTON, 30 WESLEY PLACE, LURGAN, who will celebrate their Golden Wedding to-morrow. They were married at Shankill Parish Church, Lurgan, on December 25, 1888.



THE CHRISTMAS TREE ERECTED ON THE DOWNSHIRE BRIDGE, BANBRIDGE.

LATE NEWS.

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